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Sravana 4, 1896 (Saka)

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(Eleventh Session)

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LOK SABHA

Friday, July 26, 1974/Sravana 4, 1896 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Subjects discussed during Finance Minister's Visit to U.S.S.R.

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*81. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he recently visited U.S.S.R. and discussed problems of mutual economic interest;

(b) if so, a gist of the matters discussed; and

(c) the results of the discussions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The visit to U.S.S.R. was in the nature of a 'good-will' visit. Opportunity was, however, taken of holding discussions with U.S.S.R. authorities on matters of mutual economic interest, like, softening of the terms of Soviet credits, new line of credit for financing development projects in India, financing of projects by the COMECON sponsored International Investment Bank, etc. The discussions were of an exploratory nature; further discussions are expected.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: In his answer the Minister has stated that he had discussions with the International Investment Bank of the COMECON. In view of the fact that COMECON countries are countries which are out of the grip of inflation, price-rise and other manifestations of capitalist economic crisis, and are having a stable currency, may I know whether the Minister had discussion with them, taking into account our difficult situation and the economic crisis, for more fruitful economic cooperation, so that we will be able to avert the economic crisis to some extent?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: As I told you, when the discussions with the Chairman of the International Investment Bank were held, Mr. Kaul who accompanied me had general discussions with the Finance Minister there. They were of a general nature in the sense that we wanted to know the nature of the work that they are doing, the type of assistance that they can give etc. The idea was to established a link with these institutions. I must say that these discussions were useful on the basis of which further steps can materialise.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, he has not positively answered. While answering my question he may please throw some light on the aspects which I wanted. When Mr. Khrushchev....

MR. SPEAKER: After all there is somebody to remember him!

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Mr. Brezhnev visited our country, India had entered into several economic agreements. And when our Finance Minister visited the Soviet Union whether he had discussed with

the Soviet authority about the follow-up actions to be taken so that this economic cooperation will be further strengthened and we will be benefited. I hope he will answer my first question now.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: The discussions held were not specifically meant for implementation of any particular Article. But, certainly, they were in the spirit of a follow-up actions in some aspects of the Agreement. As you know there is a Joint Commission between the Soviet Russia and India for economic cooperation. I think that the Joint Commission is likely to meet in Soviet Russia itself to discuss some of the specific matters arising out of these things. As I said one aspect of the Agreement itself was about improvement of trade and economic relations 'Economic Relation' is one of the specific Articles of the Agreement and with reference to which, we had discussions. Some aspects of the problem mentioned in my reply were also discussed from that point of view. In his first question he raised a question about the inflationary conditions of non-socialist world and enquired whether we had discussed this particular aspect or not. I cannot say that this particular aspect was discussed. Naturally this background was in my mind all the time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Since during these discussions, a number of matters of mutual economic interests must have been discussed I would like to know from him whether the problem of import of food, particularly, wheat, during our difficult positions on the repayable basis also came in for discussions and whether the Finance Minister realised the fact that on the basis of this Agreement if we were to repay the imports made, in that case, a higher price in terms of value will have been payable by us therefore, on that particular basis, is any relaxation called for regarding the import that we have made already?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I did not specifically discuss the price aspect or the repayable terms and conditions aspect. Of course, the supply of important commodities like fertilizers, steel and wheat came to be mentioned in the discussions. But generally the question of softening of the terms of repayment was one of the major aspects of discussion.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: While discussing for reaching a mutual understanding whether the interest aspect of any loan that may be given by the Soviet Union to India was compared with the World Bank loan or the other capitalist countries loan that we are taking?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: There is no question of any comparison and it did not come up for discussion.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I want to know while having discussions with the Government of USSR regarding mutual economic interest between the two countries whether the hon'ble Minister had drawn the attention of the Soviet Government to the reports that kerosene, fertilisers and some oil products which are sold to India are sold at a higher price than are sold to the East European countries.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. The question is much beyond the scope.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I did not raise this question because it was not right for me to raise this question.

Proposals received from Indian Economists to control Inflation in the Country

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*84. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of economists headed by Prof. C. N. Vakil has sub-

mitted a scheme to Government for controlling inflation,

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, and

(c) whether Government have reacted favourably to the suggestion about index linking of the currency?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANT RAO CHAVAN) (a) Yes, Sir A group of Economists headed by Professor C N Vakil submitted to the Prime Minister in February 1974 a Memorandum on a Policy to contain Inflation In a supplement to the Memorandum the Economists have presented a detailed plan in June 1974 setting out the mechanics of the scheme for immobilisation of money under the name of Semi bombla

(b) The methods suggested by the Economists for the immobilisation of money supply are not favoured by Government The other suggestions are either already under implementation or are under detailed examination

(c) The technique of index linking is not considered suitable for implementation under the prevailing conditions in India

SHRI P GANGADEB Apart from fiscal measures for controlling expenditure and monetary tools for immobilisation of resources I would like to know what direct measures have been taken so far or will be taken now in terms of providing relief to the vulnerable sections of the society on whom there is direct and severe incidence of this inflation

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I thought we were discussing the particular scheme suggested by Prof C N Vakil If it is a part of it, I can answer it Otherwise, it is a general type of question which I can go on answering

SHRI P GANGADEB In view of the fact that the real value of the rupee is going down and there is little likelihood of a return to the old value of the rupee, may I know whether Government have considered afresh the question of linking the values of the LIC policies, provident fund schemes and gratuity schemes to the index of wholesale prices so that at the time of retirement the fixed income groups are not put to hardship, and if so, what action they are going to take in this regard?

MR SPEAKER The main question is about the report of the economists Does this supplementary question arise out of it? I think he is asking a general question

SHRI P GANGADEB This question comes within the ambit of the main question That is what I feel

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN In a way it does arise because it one suggestion which is a part of the recommendations of the SEMIBOMBLA scheme of index linking of the currency and the savings This is one of the schemes that they have suggested In principle, one can say that this question does arise out of it But as I have explained, it is very difficult for us to accept it because Government do not favour index linking

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA In view of the fact that during the three months following the last budget presented by the hon Finance Minister the price index according to Government has gone up already over 10 per cent may I know whether some of the other specific proposals which have been contained in this SEMIBOMBLA scheme such as that there should be a five per cent ceiling on the growth rate of money supply every year and secondly that the public distribution system should be strengthened and for that purpose buffer stocks should be built up and compulsory levies

should be imposed, have been considered by Government? What is Government's thinking about such specific measures indicated by this group of economists? Are they really considering them on an emergency basis? What do they propose to do about such proposals?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: As I have said, there are many suggestions in the scheme of Prof. C. N. Vakil which are such that in principle they have been accepted already by Government, and some of them are under examination As for the specific suggestion about confining the money supply to five per cent, it is a part of his package scheme. He wants the money supply to be frozen at five per cent level. We accept it in principle that we must make an effort to reduce the money supply and balance it with the level of production in the country. That policy has been accepted, and the different steps that we are taking in the monetary field and fiscal field and production field are aimed at that. But it is very difficult to say that we accept the proposal that it should be fixed arithmetically or quantitatively at five per cent. It is very difficult to accept it.

As far as the other suggestion is concerned, it is a fact that we are committed to strengthening the distribution system.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But instead of its being strengthened at present it is being dismantled to some extent.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Simply because there is a change in some of the steps that we took in regard to the take-over it does not follow that we have dismantled the distribution system. It was a change meant for making it effective. Therefore, there was no question of withdrawing from that position or dismantling it. We are committed to this position that there will have to be a build up of a buffer stock of some of these essential goods and their balanced distribution so as to help the vulnerable sections of society.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: The hon. Finance Minister talked of the public distribution system. Is that system intended to supply essential commodities to the entire population or to only 30—40 per cent below the poverty line? If it is meant to cater to the poorer sections, is Government going to continue nationalisation of the wholesale trade in foodgrains as without it a public distribution system will have no meaning? What are the objectives of Government?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: The objectives is to reach essential commodities to the vulnerable sections of society.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: Not to the entire population?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It is difficult to accept this commitment. The basic point is to see that we reach the vulnerable sections.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Prof. Vakil and his fellow-economists submitted a memorandum in February this Year and followed it up with the SEMIBOMBLA in June. Government themselves have accepted that to a large extent the scheme contains in principle many good things. The Prime Minister and the Finance Minister also said the other day during the No-Confidence Debate that people should co-operate in terms of tackling economic problems. In view of this, may I know whether Government are thinking in terms of having these economists roped in in some kind of active advisory capacity so that they could be brought face to face across the same table for discussions instead of their merely sending to the Government the various representations or memoranda? In other words, have Government any scheme whereby these economists can be roped in in an active advisory

role thereby making it possible for the economists to reply to the Minister when he says that Government are not able to accept this or that point?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN This is a suggestion Normally we do meet economists and take their views When there is a public debate on public issues, it is done The memorandum was very carefully examined in the Economic Affairs Department and the Reserve Bank also I do not know what he exactly means by roping them in because we cannot rope in people like that

SHRI P G MAVALANKAR Because they are academically-minded independent people

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN It is good that they should give their views freely There is no question of not having a dialogue If necessary we can discuss with them

SHRI G VISWANATHAN What are the reasons for Government's rejection of their suggestion of 30 per cent immobilisation of the total money or partial demonetisation? What is the alternative of Government if they are going to reject the SEMIBOMBLA?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN The alternative is the policy we are following I can certainly give you a large number of reasons, but I do not think I should go into all the technical reasons I mainly said that this would certainly weaken faith in the currency and banking system That is the major reason

SHRI NIMBALKAR Is Government not willing to accept SEMIBOMBLA completely because it thinks it will lead to complete BOMBLA?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I thought it was a joke

श्री मधु लिमये अध्यक्ष महोदय, तीन दिन पहले अपने भाषण मे वित्त मत्री जी, ने कहा—इनकी योजना इसलिये हम नहीं स्वीकार करना चाहते है क्योकि उससे जनता का विश्वास मुद्रा और बैंकिंग सिस्टम से खत्म हो जायेगा। यदि इनका यह मैमोरेण्डम गौर से पढेगे तो इसमे कोई धन जप्त, एक्सप्रोप्रियेट करने की बात नही की गई है। मत्री महोदय ऐसा क्यो मानते है कि इससे मुद्रा और बैंकिंग सिस्टम मे जनता का विश्वास खत्म हो जायगा ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण इस पर बहस हो सकती है लेकिन मैंने अपनी राय आपको बतलाई है।

श्री मधु लिमये बहस तो हो सकती है, लेकिन आप उसके कारण बतला दीजिये। इसमे तो वे ब्लाक कर रहे है, धन और डिपाजिट एक्सप्रोप्रियेशन नही होता है।

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : ब्लाक नही होना है, एक्सप्रोप्रियेट होता है।

श्री मधु लिमये : कैसे एक्सप्रोप्रियेट होता है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I do not want to enter into a debate on this

श्री मधु लिमये : बहस नही करनी है, डिबेट नही करनी है, समझना भी नही है, समझाना भी नही है—आप क्या करना चाहते है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय ऐसी बात नही कहनी चाहिए।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : ऐसी बात कहनी चाहिए जो गले के नीचे न उतरे।

श्री मधु लिमये : असली बात यह है कि इस मामले में इनकी सलाह नहीं ली जा रही है, सारा मामला प्राइम मिनिस्टर सैक्रेटेरियट में तय होता है, मैं आपकी नाराजगी समझता हूं।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAN. Is it a fact that some economists have opened that there is an urgent need for restructuring the Reserve Bank as it is not keeping in tune with the economic trends prevailing in the country and is not in a position to guide the Government properly as it is constituted today?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I do not agree with the hon. member. It is not so.

आयकर प्राधिकारियों द्वारा छापे

*85. **श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आयकर अधिकारियो ने गत तीन मास मे किन-किन स्थानो पर छापे मारे,

(ख) जिन कम्पनियो एवं सस्थाओ पर छापे मारे गये उनके मालिको के नाम क्या है, और

(ग) प्रत्येक मामले मे अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving the requisite particulars about the searches made by the Income Tax Authorities during the three months April to June, 1974. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8054/174].

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह भारी-भरकम स्टेटमेन्ट—जो 15 पेज का है . . .

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अभी पौने ग्यारह बजे मिला है।

श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा : इतने थोड़े समय में सप्लीमेंट्री बनाने से काफी समय लगता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं—इस सूची मे 103 फर्मों का उल्लेख है, इनके अतिरिक्त जिन्दल समूह, विशम्भर दयाल बद्री प्रसाद समूह, सेठ सम, और सुरेखा समूह की फर्में अलग है, कुल मिला कर इन 133 फर्मों की जांच की जा रही है, इनमें 22 फर्मों के ऊपर 1961 के आयकर अधिनियम की धारा 132 के अधीन कार्यवाही की जा रही है। यह कार्यवाही कैसी की जा रही है—सरसरी तौर पर की जा रही है। क्या इस सरसरी तौर पर की जाने वाली कार्यवाही का यह अर्थ नही है कि इस जाच मे देरी की जा रही है ताकि अधिकारी माठ-गाठ कर के कुछ मामले रफ़ा-दफ़ा कर सके।

SHRI K. R. GANESH: The hon. member had asked about the number of searches made between April and June and I have given it. He said there is delay in finalising this. When searches are made, documents are seized, cash, assets and jewellery are seized. The ITO has to determine whether the seized assets belong to the assessee or are unaccountable. Under section 132 (5) of the I.T. Act, within 90 days of the search, the ITO has to determine it and make a summary assessment. When he makes a summary assessment, he will keep a part of the seized assets which is equal to the value of the tax determined. Later on, other processes will follow. You will have to find out whether there is falsification, fraud etc. As far as the searches made from April to June are concerned, there is absolutely no delay.

श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न के दूसरे भाग का उत्तर नहीं आया । मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि जो 22 फर्में ऐसी हैं जिनके ऊपर आयकर अधिनियम 1961 की धारा 132 के अधीन सरसरी तौर पर कार्यवाही की जा रही है, क्या सरसरी तौर की कार्यवाही का मतलब यह है कि उसमें देर की जाये । जब आप ने छापा मारा है, रिकार्ड सीज किया है तो उनके ऊपर मुकदमा क्यों नहीं चलाया जाता ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I have already said that for summary disposal, for summary assessment, the time limit is 90 days. It has to be made within 90 days. You are seizing somebody's assets or somebody's property. It has to be determined whether the property really belongs to him. The assessee should be given an opportunity to explain whether he can account for the property. I do not think it is the intention of the hon. Member that the income-tax officer should seize the property without following the proper procedure.

श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो छापे आजकल मारे जा रहे हैं उनमें कितना सोना, जवाहरात तथा तस्करी की वस्तुयें प्राप्त हुई हैं, उनकी अनुमानित कीमत क्या है ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I have a long list of the persons who have been searched, assets seized and so on. I will try to give him the total amount.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : फ़ौरेन एक्सचेंज कितना है ?

श्री के० आर० गणेश : फ़ौरेन ऐक्सचेंज कुछ नहीं है । लिस्ट बहुत लम्बी है, मैं माननीय सदस्य को, अगर चाहेंगे, तो दे दूंगा ।

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : जो छापे दिल्ली में पड़े हैं इनकी सूची को देखने से ऐसा लगता है कि अधिकांश लोग लोहे और इस्पात के व्यापारी हैं और इनको कंट्रोल रेट पर बहुत बड़ी तादाद में लोहा और इस्पात मिलता रहा है । तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इन्कम टैक्स ऐक्ट के तहत कार्यवाही करने के अलावा क्या सरकार इन व्यापारियों को ब्लैक लिस्ट करेगी और आइन्दा के लिये इनको इस तरह की कंट्रोल रेट पर मिलने वाली चीजों की सप्लाई बन्द करेगी ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: As far as these major steel raids are concerned, apart from the income-tax angle, there is also the angle of the violation of the Steel Control Regulations and the steel control authority has already given them notice, has frozen their stocks and started other procedures. Whatever other action has to be taken would also be taken.

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : फ़ाइनल एक्शन लेने के पहले सरकार सप्लाई बन्द करेगी कि नहीं ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Whatever other action has to be taken would be taken.

श्री रामसहाय पांडे : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस प्रकार सूची में नाम दिये गये हैं और छापे मारे गये हैं इससे अनुमान होता है कि इन्कम टैक्स विभाग अच्छा काम कर रहा है । लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि कोई वह इसेंशियल कमोडिटी नहीं जैसा हमारे मित्र ने कहा कि स्टील है, आज कल टैक्सटाइल, ऐक्सपोर्ट, इम्पोर्ट के लाइसेंसेज हैं करीब करीब सब में प्रीमियम है । तो आप कोई ऐसी योजना बना रहे हैं कि आप का खुद का अपना इंटेलीजेंस ब्यूरो हो जो पता लगा ले कि किस कमोडिटी के ऐक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट में कितना प्रीमियम है और वह किसके हाथों में जाता है ? बहुत आसान होगा आपके

लिये जानना । तो ऐसा कोई इंटेलीजेंस डिपार्टमेंट कार्यवाही करने के लिये जिससे पैसा जल्दी आ जाये और ऐसा काम न हो, इसके लिये कुछ कर रहे है ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: As far as the question of intelligence in the Income-tax Department is concerned, there is the Directorate of Intelligence and Investigation and there are various other regional officers appointed under this Directorate. It is as a result of the collection of this intelligence that the income-tax authorities have been able to conduct this raid. I agree with the hon. Member that the generation of black money mainly emanates from commodities. Therefore, all agencies of the Government which are concerned with this, the income-tax authority, the Central Excise and Customs, the Import Trade Control authority and various other regulatory agencies will have to keep a close watch over this speculation and black market that takes place in commodities.

SHRI B. S. BHAURA: May I know from the hon. Minister, if I am not mistaken, whether the Jindal Group Works,—the list of 22 firms is given here—belong to the same man who was given the President's award and, if so, will he inquire into the whole matter as to how he made such a huge property within a few years?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: As I indicated, so far as the Jindal Group is concerned, that is steel raid and that has been a very big raid. A lot of information has been collected by the Income-tax authorities in relation to not only black-marketing in steel but also in relation to accumulation of property, accumulation of assets and various other things. As a result of the processing of all this information, it will indicate how these people have made the property. Whatever action under the law is necessary in relation to prosecution and penalty will be taken.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many places of Jindal Group Works were searched cles were sezied from there. I would further like to know whether, when the search was made, at that time there was resistence and they attacked the Income-tax authorities who went to search different places. Also, I want to know whether one of the Directors of the Maruti Car project is from the Jindal Group or not.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: The raids were conducted in Delhi, Calcutta, Hissar and a few other places. As far as the jewellery and cash seized from the Jindal Group is concerned, the jewellery seized is worth Rs. 16,75,500 and the cash seized is Rs. 19,46,804 in currency notes, fixed deposits, etc. It is a fact that in one of the raids, some persons tried to assault the Income-tax authorities. The matter has been reported to the police. The case has been lodged against them.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Any arrest made?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: All those who were involved in the assault of the income-tax authorities were arrested by the police.

About the other question, I have no information.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI): Since the Finance Ministry seems to actually find out the sources of black money and raid all the places, may I know whether it is not a fact that whenever Income-tax authorities decide to raid the places, in most of the cases the big business houses get

the prior information that the Income-tax authorities are coming I would like to mention here a specific case Is it not a fact that in Calcutta, when the houses of Birlas, specially, B M Birla and M P. Birla were searched last year and the year before last, at the same time, the house of Mr Badri Prasad Podar was also raided and the information was given and, automatically, it was suspended the very next day I have my personal information

I would like to know whether any alternative arrangement or machinery can be found by the Finance Ministry without the help of the Income-tax authorities to raid the houses of big business men because the Income-tax authorities inform the big business houses They come to know each and every thing They get all the information How can the raids be conducated? So, I want to know whether any alternative arrangements can be made by the Finance Ministry so far as the raids of big business houses are concerned

SHRI K R GANESH With all my respect to the hon Member, so far as his knowledge is concerned and he is a leader

MR SPEAKER It is not a question of knowledge He is giving you information

SHRI K R GANESH A little bit of explanation is also required because I am going to contest his statement

MR SPEAKER I think, he does not need to be set up in his mood to get the information He is directly concerned with the information

SHRI K R GANESH. I do not agree with the hon Member that when the income-tax authorities conduct the raids, they do in collusion with them If the hon Member is prepared to give me specific information, we will look into it Many raids have been conducted in big business houses also, and as far as my impression goes, actually no raids have been conducted by the income-tax authorities against these people Perhaps he is referring to the enforcement wing As far as I know, during the last two or three years, no particular raid has been conducted against these people as far as income-tax is concerned

SHRI H M PATEL As the list itself shows, the income-tax authorities appear to have acted on very sound information, but there are one or two cases in which nothing was seized I would like to know, in such cases, when they find that the raids have been conducted on wrong information, whether the Department go further into it to see what was the reason for this, whether the source which gave the information was satisfactory, whether they should have acted in this way, because raid means a certain amount of loss of reputation etc As I said, it is satisfactory to find that, except in two or three cases information on which they had acted was sound and they have found something to take action on I want to know what they do in the exceptional cases, whether they take the trouble of seeing that the information is good before they proceed to raid

SHRI K R GANESH As the hon Member himself has indicated, out of 150 raids, there have been only one or two cases in which nothing was found If there is harassment of the person or if there is any negligence of duty, the higher authorities look into it I would like to point out that, in making a dent in this problem of black money, raids and seizures play a very important role I think it will be necessary to conduct these raids with the assurance and satisfaction that these are not conducted for the sake of harassment

MR SPEAKER So many questions have been asked, still you are not satisfied?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: May I request Mr. Bhattacharyya not to disturb the gentleman at his back.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: The hon. Speaker always calls members sectorwise. You said it only the other day.

MR. SPEAKER: Should I strictly follow that?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: I do not say that.

MR. SPEAKER: You advise me, I will follow.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: You should please try to do justice to everybody.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: At the very outset before I put my question, I must congratulate the officers and staff who had the courage and conviction to raid a big business-house like the Jindals who were enjoying the patronage of this Government, some of the officials of the Government and some of the Ministers.

I would like to know whether there is any truth in the report that at the time when the raid took place, there are several people who cooperated, but in this particular businessman's house even certain valuable documents were burnt by certain members of the family and if so, what positive action has been taken against them in this regard, apart from search warrants and other things.

Is it also a fact that after this raid was conducted, some sort of a recommendation is going to be made to the President to withdraw the Padma Sri award from this man who is proved to be an antisocial?

AN HON. MEMBERS: A criminal.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: It is correct to say, as the hon. Member said, that in one of the houses of this group, a lady locked herself up inside a bath room when the raid was going on and tried to destroy certain books of accounts and documents. But some books of accounts have been salvaged and further action in regard to prosecution, etc., as far as this lady is concerned, is also being looked into.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the lady be arrested?

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Nothing happens They arrange to hush up the whole thing.

Expansion in Money Supply

*86. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether between April and June, 1974 money supply in the country has expanded by Rs. 638 crores;

(b) whether out of this amount credit to the commercial sector accounted for Rs. 437 crores; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the failure of the Reserve Bank's declared policy of curbing the growth of money supply so as to check galloping inflation in the economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). The principal objective of the credit policy of the Reserve Bank of India in recent years has been to restrain the expansion of money supply to the extent possible consistent with the growth of essential production and exports. The expansion both in money supply and bank credit to the commercial sector during this period (March 29 to June 7, 1974) was broadly governed by these objectives. The

expansion in money supply wos Rs. 638 crores and while the expansion in gross bank credit to the commercial sector was Rs. 437 crores, on a net basis, it amounted to Rs. 252 crores only.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: According to the hon. Minister, the credit policy of the Reserve Bank has been adhering to the guidelines or the policy which the Government has indicated to it.

I would like to know from him whether, in view of the fact that this credit policy of the Reserve Bank has in fact led to this tremendous growth in money supply which is unprecedented and, as a rerult of that, inflation and price-increase is now going completely out of hand would he consider that some of kind of a radical restructing of the Reserve Bank's administeration itself is necessary or not, in the sense that it is time that the Chairman of the Reserve Bank should be the Finance Minister of the Government of India itself? Is it not time that the Board of the Reserve Bank should be composed in the main of nominees of the Government, elected representatives of the employees, some economists and only one or two representatives of these various Chambers of Commerce under the Chairmanship of the Finance Minister himself? Would he consider whether it is not high time in this critical condition when radical steps have to be taken to see that the Reserve Bank does not go on pursuing a credit policy which subserves the interest of big business and monopoly houses, the hoarders and the speculators in this country?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: His suggestion for restructuring is arising out of his assessment of the work of the Reserve Bank with which, I must tell the House, I am not in agreement and I strongly differ. It is not the structuring of the policy of the Reserve Bank which can be considered to be at fault because there are certain difficult economic problemes which the Reserve Bank of India is tackling and they are handling these problems with as much awareness of the problem and the national requirements. I do not think there is anything basically wrong necessitating entire restructuring of the kind suggested by him. That is not being contemplated by Government.

As far as the Directors on the Board are concerned they are appointed by the Government and there are eminent economists on it. There are eminent social workers on it. There are one or two representatives of Commerce and Industry as well. But I think their eminenence cannot be doubted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Is he aware of the fact that the elected representative of the bank employees who are sitting as directors on the Boards of the various commercial banks and nationalised banks have been consistently, over the years, in that capacity as directors, making proposals to see that credit is not given to parties indulging in building up their inventories speculation, hoarding and all that, but that such proposals are not taken into account and are only rejected? What is the use of this kind of a Board and what is the use of this kind of participation of workers in management if their proposals are not to be accepted and acted upon? They are only a minority, among the many.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: If it is said that only representatives of employees should be the directors and nobody else, that is a different matter altogether. But I do not think that the proposals are never considered. That is not so. According to me they are doing useful work. According to me the representatives of workers at the moment are doing useful work. May be in one or two instances the decisions may not be fully accepted but you cannot say that they are not totally considered.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH: Mahatma Gandhi is on record for having said that a cultivator's son

should be the Prime Minister of India. I have no doubt if he would have been alive today he would have said that the Governor of the Reserve Bank should be a cultivator's son. Because, every credit squeeze which the Reserve Bank enforces in the name of fighting inflation affects only the public sector bodies and cooperative institutions of the cultivators and practically leaves untouched the private trade, black-moneyed people and hoarders. Recently the Maharashtra Government imposed monopoly trade in cotton from this season. The Reserve Bank of India under the thumb-rule of credit squeeze have denied credit for the procurement of cotton forgetting that guaranteed price is twenty per cent less than the market price last year and that out of the guaranteed price only eighty per cent is paid in advance and fifty per cent of the total price is apportioned towards payment of dues. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: I am asking you not to make a speech.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESMUKH: Is it or is it not a fact that the credit squeeze of the Reserve Bank invariably and only applier to the cooperative institutions of cultivators?

SHRI PILOO MODY: He is a cultivator's son and so, you should reply properly.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I do not think that such a categorical conclusion can be drawn from what the hon. Member has said. I have no information on that.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: The hon. Minister has given figures about the money supply. It is conceded that there has been an increase in the money supply. The money supply at any particular point of time is also affected equally by the velocity of the money that is in the money market. May I know—the money supply has been conceded to have been increased—what steps are taken by Government to curb the velocity of money in this country?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Both these things are really so interlinked that the velocity of the money and shortages of commodity also force the pace of velocity of money. Naturally, both these things have to be taken together.

Implementation of Recommendations of Raj Committee by States

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*89. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI M. C. DAGA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had recently written to the State Governments that the recommendations made by the Raj Committee regarding 'Tax on agricultural holdings' should be implemented within specified period; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the reactions of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The State Governments have been advised to raise additional resources from the agricultural sector through imposition of an Agricultural Holdings Tax as recommended by the Raj Committee or through a mix of other measurer like withdrawal of concessions on land revenue, levy of progressive surcharges on land revenue, betterment levy, cess on commercial crops, revision of water rates etc.

(b) Haryana and Himachal Pradesh Governments have decided to implement modified versions of the holdings tax suggested by the Raj Committee. Other State Governments have the matter under consideration.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: It has been reported in the press that the Madhya Pradesh Government, in reply to the Finance Minister's letter, in mid-May, has expressed its inability to

implement the Raj Committee proposals due to political reasons Governments silence in this regard seems to imply that it has accepted the stand of the M P Government I would like to know how this is compatible with the statement made by the Prime Minister yesterday in reply to the No-confidence Motion when she said that her Government would not hesitate to implement the measures beneficial to the country even at the risk of unpopularity

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I do not know why these two things have been linked up together The question of implementing the recommendations of the Raj Committee is before the State Governments for a long time So much so, I do not think any State Government has said that there is any political difficulty about it But I find that many State Governments have pleaded about the complexity of the scheme of holdings tax that comes in the way Even then many of the State Governments have not given their final view about it We did not stop at that We said that if it is not possible for them to implement this particular scheme of holdings tax as such they can possibly think of having some other resource mobilisation effort in the agricultural sector by increasing the rates of water cess, electricity or some sort of a surcharge on the commercial crops and so on and so forth The State Governments including the Madhya Praderh Government have made some efforts in this direction So what the Prime Minister said yesterday is exactly what is being done in the State Governments

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA The hon ble Minister has just said that thought has been given to raising other additional resources so as to cover the budgetary deficits of the States I would like to know that if the States do succeed in covering a major portion of their budgetary deficit is the Government thinking of completely abandoning the recommendations made by the Raj Committee and completely abandoning their attempts to implement these recommendations?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN The idea of Raj Committee arose out of certain discussions held by the Central Government with State Governments with a view that some major effort be made to raise resources in the agricultural sector It is on that basis that the terms of reference of the Raj Committee were formulated and the Raj Committee made recommendations Some of the recommendations of the Raj Committee have been accepted by the Government As for the other matters are concerned some of the State Governments with little modification have accepted the scheme As such there is no question of rejecting the Raj Committee report It is before the State Governments and they are still considering it

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA I think the majority of the State Governments have already rejected these proposals I think that is what the Press reported in the month of June

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN It is true most of the State Governments have pondered over the complicity of the scheme and, as such, they have not implemented

श्री मूल चन्द डागा राज कमेटी की सिफारिशो को केन्द्रीय सरकार के मानने के बाद किन किन राज्यो ने उस पर लिखित एतराज किया कि हम इन सिफारिशो को लाग करने मे असमर्थ है ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण मेरे पास इसकी इन्फार्मेशन इस समय नही है । लेकिन कई राज्यो ने कहा है इस बात को ।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा किन किन राज्यो ने कहा है ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण यह इन्फार्मेशन इस समय मेरे पास नही है ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Financial Relief for Export of Tea

*82. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea industry has warned that it will be extremely difficult to sustain the present level of exports around 200 million kg. a year over the coming years unless Government grants immediate financial relief;

(b) whether Government propose to grant cash incentive at a specific percentage of the f.o.b. value of the tea exported; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Government are alive to the need for affording practicable and appropriate reliefs to the tea industry for boosting tea exports and this is kept under constant review

Financial Assistance to Orissa

*87. SHRI BANAMALI BABU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central loan outstanding against Orissa Government as on April 1, 1974;

(b) the amount of interest paid by the State Government to the Central Government on the loan last year; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Centre to help the Orissa State in view of its need for greater assistance particularly for the speedy completion of development projects?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a). The amount of Central loan outstanding against Orissa Government as on 1st April, 1974 was Rs. 514 crores.

(b). The State Government paid an interest of Rs. 21.78 crores to the Central Government in the last year.

(c). Compared to the estimated transfer of funds to the tune of Rs. 287.37 crores to Orissa during the Fourth Plan period under the 6th Finance Commission award, the estimated transfer of funds to the State during the Fifth Plan period would be Rs. 577.32 crores, apart from debt relief to the extent of Rs. 157.32 crores. This increased transfer of resources from the Centre to the State in pursuance of the Sixth Finance Commission's awards would strengthen the resources position of the State Government. Taken together with Central assistance for the State Plan and the State's own efforts at raising additional resources, the State should be able to provide adequately for development.

Representation made by Government of Tripura for Loan from L.I.C.

*88. SHRI DASARATHA DEB:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any representation from the Government of Tripura for loan from the funds of Life Insurance Corporation for development purposes; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The Central Government have not received any representation from the Government of Tripura for loan from the funds of Life Insurance Corporation of India for development purposes.

Action taken by Banks against Owners of Mines taken over by Government of India

*90. SHRI R R. PATEL:
SHRI D P. JADEJA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the owners of mines taken over by Government of India, against whom Allahabad Bank, Bank of Baroda and Central Bank of Calcutta have issued solicitors' notices and the amount involved in each case, and

(b) what action have the respective banks taken against Bharat Coking Coal and Coal Mines Authority and the amounts collected by them on behalf of each of the above owners upto 30th April, 1974?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) and (b) In accordance with the practice and usage customary among bankers and in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the three nationalised banks, namely, the Allahabad Bank, Bank of Baroda and Central Bank of India cannot divulge any information relating to or to the affairs of its constituents It is, therefor not possible to divulge the information asked for

काले धन का पता लगाने के उपाय

*९०. श्री दरबारा सिंह :
श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद :

क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या देश मे कई करोड रुपये का काला धन चलन मे है जिसके कारण वस्तुओ के मूल्यो मे गिरावट सम्भव नही है और मूल्य प्रतिदिन बढ़ते जा रहे है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो सरकार द्वारा इस काले धन को निकालने के लिये क्या नवीन प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय मे राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) (क) काले धन का चलन उन महत्वपूर्ण कारणो मे से एक है जिसके फलस्वरूप वस्तुओ की जमाखोरी और हानिकर सट्टेबाजी होती है, और उससे मुद्रास्फीति बढाने वाले प्रभाव उत्पन्न होते है। जिन अन्य महत्वपूर्ण कारणो से पिछले दिनो मूल्य वृद्धि पर प्रभाव पडा है उन मे से कुछ इस प्रकार है :

(i) 1971–72 और 1972–73 के दौरान खाद्यान्न के उत्पादन में उत्तरोत्तर कमी होना ,

(ii) 1973 के दौरान औद्योगिक उत्पादन लगभग रुक जाना ,

(iii) कुछ आयातित वस्तुओ के, विशेषत पट्रोलियम और पैट्रोलियम उत्पादो के आयात मूल्या मे भारी वृद्धि होना , और

(iv) औद्योगिक तथा कृषि–सम्बन्धी उत्पादन मे वृद्धि की तुलना मे मुद्रा का अधिमान प्रसार।

(ख) काले धन की समस्या एक व्यापक और सतत समस्या है इसलिए इस पर काबु पाने के लिए समय-समय पर उपाय किये जाते है। इस बारे मे हाल मे किए गये उपायो में से कुछ उपाय सदन-पटल पर रखे गए विवरण पत्र मेदिये अनुसार है।

विवरण

कर-अपवंचन को रोकने के लिए हाल ही में लिए गए उपाय

I—विधायी

(i) कराधान कानून (सशोधन) अधिनियम 1972 के जरिए उन मामलो मे अचल सम्पत्तियो के अभिग्रहण करने की व्यवस्था की गई है जिनमें सम्पत्ति के अन्तरण के समय उनका कम मूल्य दिखाया जाता है जिस से न्यून मूल्याकन कालेधन को पैदा करने तथा उसके चलन मे सहायता करता है।

मार्च, 1973 मे अप्रैल, 1974 तक की अवधि में 4414 मामलो मे सम्पत्तियो के अभिग्रहण के लिए नोटिस जारी किये गये थे और 28 मामलो में अभिग्रहण के आदेश दिये गये थे।

(ii) कराधान कानून (सशोधन) अधिनियम 1972 के जरिए यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि बेनामी रखी गई किसी सम्पत्ति पर किसी प्रकार का अधिकार जमाने के लिए किसी न्यायालय मे तब तक कोई मुकदमा नही चलाया जायगा जब तक उस सम्पत्ति के सम्बन्ध मे आयकर विभाग को सूचना नही दी गयी हो। इसी अधिनियम में न्यून मूल्याकन के जरिए होने वाले कर अपवचन को रोकने के लिए विभाग के मूल्याकन तन्त्र को मजबूत बनाने के उपाय भी दिये गये है।

(iii) वित्त अधिनियम, 1973 मे यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि कर-प्रयोजनो के लिये कृषि जन्य आय तथा कृषि-भिन्न आसूचना आय को आशिक रूप से मिलाया जाय। ऐसा नही होने से यह कर अपवचन का एक सपन्न स्रोत रहा है।

(iv) कराधान कानून (सशोधन) विधेयक, 1973 मे कालेधन को रोकने के लिए कई उपबन्ध है, जैसे तलाशी लेने तथा माल पकडने के अधिकारो मे वृद्धि कर अपवचन के कारण दण्ड लगाने तथा मुकदमा चलाने के लिए अधिक कठोर व्यवस्था सर्वेक्षण के लिए अतिरिक्त अधिकार लेखो का अनिवार्य रूप से रखना तथा उनकी लेखा परीक्षा और कर-कानूनो की अनेक खामियो को दूर करना।

(v) आयकर की दरो मे कमी और वित्त विधेयक 1974 के जरिए आयकर की छूट-सीमा को 5000 रु० से बढाकर 6000 रु० तक करने से भी कर-उपपवचन की रोक मे मदद मिलेगी। 18000 रु० तक की आय वाले वेतन भोगी करदाताओ द्वारा आय-विवरणिया दाखिल करना, कुछ शर्तों के अधीन वैकल्पिक कर दिया गया है। इससे उपलब्ध कर्मचारियो को करदाताओ को बडे मामलो मे बेहतर जांच करने के लिए लगाने मे सहायता मिलेगी।

II—प्रशासनिक

(i) प्रत्येक आयकर आयुक्त के कार्यालय मे एक आसूचना एकक सलग्न है। ये एकक निरीक्षण उप-निदेशको (जाच) तथा/अथवा निरीक्षण सहायक निदेशको (जाच) के अधीन होते है। आसूचना पक्ष का कार्य कर अपवचनके बारे मे सूचना प्राप्त करना, आयकर अधि-नियम की धारा 132 के अन्तर्गत तलाशि या लेने के लिए मामलो की छानबीन करना तथा इस्तगासे के मामलो पर कार्यवाही करना है। इन आसूचना एककों में कर्मचारियो की सख्या को बढाया जा रहा है।

(ii) कुछ बडे औद्योगिक गुटो के मामलो की छानबीन के लिए निरीक्षण निदेशालय (जाच) मे एक विशेष कक्ष की स्थापना की गई है। इस कक्ष द्वारा की गयी जाच के परिणाम-स्वरूप बिरला तथा बाजोरिया जानान समूह के कई मामलो मे आयकर, धन कर तथा दान कर के अन्तर्गत कर निर्धारण के बहुत से मामलो को पुन चालू किया गया है। इस्तगसे की कार्यवाही भी चालू की गई है।

(iii) कर अपवंचन के सुस्पष्ट मामलों में आय छुपाने के सम्बन्ध में बड़ी संख्या में अभियोग चलाये गये हैं।

(iv) विस्तृत सर्वेक्षण के आदेश दिये गये हैं, विशेषत: शहरी क्षेत्रों में हाल में बनाई गई सम्पत्तियों के सम्बन्ध में व्यवसाय से आय प्राप्त करने वाले व्यक्तियों ठेकेदारों और वेतन-भोगी कर्मचारियों के सम्बन्ध में।

(v) आयकर अधिनियम की धारा 133A के अन्तर्गत अचानक सर्वेक्षण करने के अधिकारों का प्रयोग भी अधिक बार किया जा रहा है।

(vi) कर-निर्धारण के दौरान आयकर विभाग ने आय छुपाने के कारण बड़ी संख्या में दण्ड भी लगाये हैं।

(vii) हाल में जारी किये गये नये पुरस्कार नियम पुराने नियमों की अपेक्षा कुछ मामलों में अधिक उदार हैं और इस कारण आशा की जाती है कि कर अपवंचन के सम्बन्ध में सूचना इकट्ठी करने का काम तेजी से किया जायेगा।

(viii) हाल वर्षों में आयकर विभाग द्वारा तलाशी लेने और माल पकड़ने की गति को बनाये रखा गया है। तलाशियों के माध्यम से आय कर विभाग बहुत सी कूट योजनाओं का पता भी लगा सका है, उदाहरणार्थ हुण्डी जालचक्र, चाली फर्मों का जालचक्र, जाली बाउचरों का जालचक्र, वर्ग पहेलियों का जालचक्र, फ्लैट मिल्कियत का जालचक्र और सीमाशुल्क निकासी के अनुमति पत्रों का जालचक्र।

1187 LS—3.

Rise in prices of Essential Commodities

*92. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH MAHATA:
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of essential commodities since the Union Budget for 1974-75 was presented in Parliament;

(b) if so, what has been the percentage of rise in the wholesale and consumer price indices as well as the percentage of price increase relating to essential commodities, commodity-wise, so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8055/74].

Implementation of recommendation of Third Pay Commission in regard to H.R.A. and C.C.A. Payable to Central Government Employees

*93. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not implemented the recommendation of Third Pay Commission in connection with the House Rent and City Compensatory Allowance payable to Central Government employees from 1st January, 1973; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The Third Pay Commission had recommended that the scales of pay

recommended by it should be made applicable from 1st March, 1973, and that the recommendations on pensionary benefits should also be made applicable to those Government employees who retired on or after 1st March, 1973. Government have, however, improved upon these two recommendations and have made them effective from 1st January, 1973. The Commission has not recommended any date for giving effect to its recommendations on other matters including house rent and city compensatory allowances. The recodmmendations relating to house rent and compensatory (City) allowances have, therefore, been implemented with effect from the 1st November, 1973, the date on which the Resolution containing the decisions of Government on various recommendations of the Third Pay Commission relating to Class II, III and IV employees was issued

Restriction imposed on Import of Items by Nepal

*94. SHRI M. S. PURTY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal has recently restricted the imports of certain items from India;

(b) if so, the particulars of such items and the reasons therefor, and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The recent restrictions relate to the import of certain types of tractor trailers, cultivators and disc harrows and are intended to give protection to similar items now being indigenously produced in Nepal. Hereafter import into Nepal of these items will be subject to securing of import licence.

Appeal issued to State Governments in regard to Economy in Expenditure

*95. SHRI VEKARIA:

SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an appeal has been issued to the State Governments to enforce strict economy in the matter of expenditure in order to cover their budgetary gaps; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments to this appeal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The State Governments have been requested to exercise the utmost restraint on non-Plan expenditures and to tighten up the collection of all Government dues including arrears in order to cover the deficits in their budgets. They have also been advised to raise additional resources, especially from the affluent sections of the agricultural sector and by reducing the losses on irrigation and power projects, for fully financing the Plan. The State Governments have agreed to consider these suggestions.

Forgery of Import and Export Licences

*96. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been misuse and forgery of more than two hundred import and export licences during 1973 by some leading business firms in the country:

(b) whether the licences valued rupees 3 to 4 crores were obtained by these firms by fraud and if so, the names of the firms and amount involved;

(c) whether any of these business firms in the country who have been detected in 1973 had committed such fraud earlier also and whether any of the Government officials is involved in these cases, and

(d) if so, what stringent action Government propose to take against these firms and Government officials and to check further misuse of the import and export licences?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA) (a) No case of misuse and forgery of import and export licences by leading business firms during 1973 was registered in the Central Bureau of Investigation

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Cut in Central Assistance to States

*97 SHRI S N SINGH DEO

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to curtail Central aid to States, and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to meet the non-Plan revenue gaps of the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) No, Sir

(b) The Sixth Finance Commission have assessed the non-Plan revenue gaps of the States during the Fifth Plan period and have recommended transfer of resources sufficient to cover them The State Governments have been advised to curtail non-Plan expenditures and to raise adequate resources so that the current year ends on a balanced basis.

Grant of D A to Central Government Employees

*98 SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether any instalments of dearness allowance to Central Government employees have fallen due after March, 1974,

(b) whether granting thereof has been postponed by Government and

(c) if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) In terms of the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission two instalments of additional dearness allowance have fallen due—one from 1st April, 1974 and the other from 1st June, 1974

(b) and (c) The question of granting these instalments is under consideration

Separate Directorates for Exhibition and Commercial Publicity

*99 SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether in the Annual Reports for 1971-72 and 1972-73 his Ministry has stated that with the "amalgamation of two wings of Exhibitions and Commercial Publicity" it became possible to make an integrated approach to the publicity problems and to achieve a more efficient and rational use of available resources, and

(b) if so, whether there is any move to separate the two wings under separate Directorates?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is at present no move to separate the two wings.

Proposal to Exercise Control Over Sale and Distribution of Medium Variety of Cloth

*100. SHRI A K. M. ISHAQUE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to exercise control over sale and distribution of medium variety of cloth, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF D. P CHATTOPADHYAYA). (a) and (b). With effect from the 1st April, 1974, production, price and distribution control has been extended to cover dhotis, sarees, long-cloth, shirting and drill of Medium 'A' category of cotton cloth, in addition to these varieties in Medium 'B' category. The sale of controlled cloth is organised through the following channels —

(i) Mills' own retail shops,

(ii) Super Bazars in the co-operative sector,

(iii) National Consumers Co-operative Federation and the chain of co-operative institutions affiliated to them,

(iv) Fair price shops, run under the aegis of the State Government, and

(v) Any other agency in the co-operative sector, specified by the State Government concerned

Contract for Export of Sugar

687. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian sugar has found a favourable price in the world market,

(b) if so, whether any contracts have been entered into; and

(c) the main features thereof together with the price agreed to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Contracts for export of a total quantity of 4,63,000 tonnes of white and raw sugar valued approximately at Rs 209 crores f o b have been finalised

(c) The main features of the contracts recently entered into are

(i) white and raw sugar has been sold directly to the foreign buyers and not through agents,

(ii) for bulk of the sugar sold the commission of 1/2 per cent of the sale value traditionally paid to the foreign buyers has been discontinued, and

(iii) more favourable terms of payment have been obtained for raw sugar

The average nett of f o b price of *white sugar* works out to Rs 4971.90 per metric tonne and Rs 2,924 per metric tonne for raw *raw sugar*

Kandla Free Trade Zone

688. SHRI P M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether business circles in Gujarat continue to be agitated over the step-motherly treatment meted

out to the Kandla free trade zone by the Central Government.

(b) if so, whether they have alleged favouritism shown to another such zone in Bombay known as 'Santa Cruz Electronics Processing Zone',

(c) whether they have demanded that Kandla zone should be given facilities to increase its competitive capacity,

(d) whether they have also suggested that there should be separate statutory provision for conducting the affairs of the Kandla zone, instead of the present system of running it through Government notifications, and

(e) if so the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) and (b) Certain business circles in Gujarat have demanded treatment of indigenous supplies to the KFT Zone as exports and provision of transport system, clearing house facilities, etc on the lines of Santa Cruz Electronics Export Processing Zone

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir

(e) The High Powered KFTZ Steering Board under the Chairmanship of Deputy Minister of Commerce has already considered these demands and decided, in principle to treat indigenous supplies to the Zone as exports simplify the customs procedure, grant transport subsidy etc for improving the competitive capacity of the Zone industrialists Govt have already granted transport subsidy @ 1 per cent of the f o b value of exports As the existing arrangements are considered adequate there does not appear any need for a separate legislation for conducting the affairs of the KFT Zone KFTZ and Santa Cruz Zone are two different projects and both are being implemented with equal expedition and consideration.

Closure of Coffee Plantations in Kerala

689 SHRI C JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the closure of coffee plantations in the Wynad area in Kerala, and

(b) if so, the facts thereabout, demands raised by employees and Government's response thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) There was no closure of coffee plantations in Wynad area of Kerala, but a few large growers had stopped post-picking cultural operations such as weeding manuring etc

(b) In view of increase in labour wages in coffee plantations in Kerala State and increase in price of some inputs growers were demanding an increase in coffee prices The Coffee Board have raised the reserve prices for pool sales with due regard to increase in costs

Export of Basmati Rice by S T C

690 SHRI MADHU LIMAYE Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the total quantity of Basmati rice exported by the State Trading Corporation last year,

(b) total foreign exchange earned.

(c) whether any dispute has arisen between the State Trading Corporation and Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation over the question of Basmati exports, and

(d) if so, whether the dispute has been resolved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) In 1973-74, STC exported 17,000 MT of Basmati Rice.

(b) Approximately Rs. 860 lakhs.

(c) There has been no dispute.

(d) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Foodgrains from Nepal

691. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been large scale smuggling of foodgrains, mainly rice, from Nepal's rich terai belt to neighbouring Indian States; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) There is no restriction on the import of Nepalese primary products, including foodgrains, from Nepal into India as per the public notice No. 104/I.T.C.(PN)/71, dated 17th August, 1971 issued by the then Ministry of Foreign Trade. Custom duty is also not leviable on such imports as per Ministry of Finance notification No. 6-Cus./F. No. 80/277/70-L.C.I. dated 1st January, 1971.

(b) Does not arise.

Jute Mill in Tripura

692. SHRI BIREN DUTTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Tripura has laid foundation stone of a jute mill in Tripura;

(b) when it is expected to be started; and

(c) the estimated cost of starting the jute mill;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In about two years.

(c) The estimated cost is Rs. 3.17 crores.

Setting up of Inter-Ministerial Committee to solve problems of Jute Industries

693. SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI N. E. HORO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inter-Ministerial Committee comprising officials of certain Ministries has been set up by Government to evolve a way to solve the jute industry's problem of production loss caused by power shortage in the Eastern region; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Top Posts lying vacant in Public Sector Undertaking

694. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of top Executive Directors of Public Sector Enterprises are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the period since when these top posts are lying vacant; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). Out of 118 posts of chief executives, there are only six vacant for which interim arrangements have been made. The details of these are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

List of six posts of Chief Executive lying vacant.

(1) Managing Director, Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited.	The post is vacant since 3.11.1973, when the previous incumbent prematurely retired. The Ministry of Industrial Development has selected a person for the vacancy and the appointment is being processed with the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
(2) Managing Director, National Textile Corporation.	This post was combined with that of Chairman till 4.6.1974, when a part-time Chairman was appointed on a regular basis. The Ministry of Industrial Development are taking steps to fill up the vacancy.
(3) Managing Director, Indo-Burma Petroleum Co. Limited.	The previous Managing Director relinquised charge of the post on 1.6.1974 on his appointment as Managing Director, Indian Oil Corpn. (Marketing Division). The Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals are taking steps to fill up the vacancy and till such time the previous Managing Director is holding additional charge of the post.
(4) Managing Director, Indian Motion Pictures, Export Corporation Ltd.	The post became vacant on 28.3.1974 when the previous incumbent relinquished charge. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting are taking steps to fill up the vacancy.
(5) Chairman-cum-managing Director, Export Credit & Guarantee Corporation.	The Ministry of Commerce have obtained the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet to fill up the vacancy. The selected person is likely to join the post shortly.
(6) Managing Director, Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited.	The post became vacant on 7.7.1974 on the expiry of the tenure of the previous incumbent. The Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals are considering the question of selecting his successor. In the meantime acting arrangement has been made.

Separate Commissioner at the Centre for Handloom Industry

695. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have separate Commissioner for handloom industry at the Centre as stressed by some delegates from Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee;

(b) whether the delegation had also urged for relaxation of the rigid conditions stipulated by the Reserve Bank with regard to credit and demanded a greater and freer flow of working capital for the apex and primary weavers co-operatives; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Suggestions for the appointment of a Development Commissioner for Handlooms have been received. A recommendation to that effect has also been made by the Study Team on Handlooms appointed in December, 1973, under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Sivaraman, Member, Planning Commission.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A general relaxation of the conditions stipulated under the Reserve Bank of India's Scheme of Handloom Finance is not considered necessary or feasible. The State Governments, can, however, approach the Reserve Bank of India for suitable relaxations in individual cases of genuine hardship.

Agreement with Canada for Supply of Newsprint

696. SHRI BANAMALI BABU:
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:
SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation from Canada visited India in the last week of May, 1974 and had discussions with the Government of India for supply of additional newsprint:

(b) whether any agreement has been reached in the matter; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Canadian delegation had discussions with the S.T.C.

(b) and (c). The Canadian Delegation agreed, subject to the approval of their Board of Directors, for the supply of additional 13,000 M/Ts of newsprint during the months of October, 1974 to March, 1975.

जमाखोरों की गिरफ्तारियां

697. **श्री राम रतन शर्मा** : क्या **वाणिज्य मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1973 और 1974 के दौरान देश मे कितने जमाखोरों को भारत रक्षा नियमों और आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत, राज्यवार, गिरफ्तार किया गया है ;

(ख) उनमें से कितने व्यक्तियों को सजा दी गई, कितने बरी किये गये और कितने व्यक्तियों पर मुकदमे चलाये जा रहे है; और

(ग) गिरफ्तार किये गये जमाखोरों में से कितने व्यक्ति बड़े व्यापार गृहों के साथ सम्बन्धित हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी०जार्ज) (क) से (ग) भारत रक्षा नियमों तथा आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम को लागू करने का उत्तरदायित्व राज्य सरकारों/संघ प्रशासित क्षेत्रों का है जो जमाखोरों, काला बाजार करने वालो तथा मुनाफाखोरो के विरुद्ध समुचित कार्यवाही करते हैं । उनकी सख्या का राज्यवार ब्यौरा तथा इस बात का ब्यौरा कि क्या वे बड़े व्यापार गृहो से सम्बद्ध है, तत्काल उपलब्ध नही है ।

जमाखोरों से पकड़ी गई वस्तुओं को सुरक्षित ढंग से रखने के लिए प्रबंध

698. **श्री आर० आर० शर्मा** क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1973 तथा 1974 मे भारत रक्षा नियमो (डी० आई० आर०) तथा आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत पकडे गये जमाखोरो के भडारो मे कौन कौन सी आवश्यक वस्तुए पकडी गई,

(ख) क्या उन सभी वस्तुओ को सरकार ने अपने अधिकार मे ले लिया है; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उनको सुरक्षित ढंग मे रखने के लिये सरकार ने क्या प्रबन्ध किये है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) :(क) से (ग) भारतीय रक्षा-नियम अथवा आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम 1955 के अधीन आवश्यक वस्तुओं के जमाखोरो की गिरफ्तारी तथा उनके खिलाफ़ अनुवर्ती कार्यवाही राज्य सरकारों अथवा

सघ राज्य प्रशासनो के अधिकारियो द्वारा की जाती है । जब कि स्टाक अपराधी की गिरफ्तारी पर कब्जे मे लिया जा सकता है, परन्तु खाद्यान्न तथा खाद्य तेलो को छोडकर आवश्यक माल उसी जिले के अथवा प्रेसीडेन्सी टाउन के ममाहर्ता द्वारा जब्त किया जा सकता है जिसमे सम्बन्धित आवश्यक वस्तु पकडी गई है । अब तक प्राप्त उत्तरो मे यह पता चलगा कि अरुणाचल प्रदेश, दादरा तथा नागर हवेली तथा लक्षद्वीप मे ऐसा कोई मामला नही हुआ है । गुजरात मे निम्नलिखित वस्तुए पकडी गई है —

	क्विंटल
खाद्यान्न	199 79
मूगफली	112631
मूगफली तेल .	2363
चीनी .	897
वनस्पति .	1322
सीमेंट	10955 बोरे
कच्चा तेल	147920 लीटर
मिट्टी का तेल	66900 लीटर
डीजल तेल	4599 लीटर

कृषको के अलावा अन्य व्यक्तियो से पकडे गये स्टाक जब्त किये जा रहे है और उन्हे सरकारी वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से वितरित किया जा रहा है ।

चन्डीगढ के सघ राज्य क्षेत्र मे पाये गये स्टाक इस प्रकार है

गेहू	1283 क्विंटल
चीनी	1344
कोयला .	278
चावल . .	988
मैदा . .	264
सूजी . .	16
गेहू का आटा	2))
नमक	256
मक्का	2794
धान .	1114
उर्वरक	434 बोरे
वनस्पति .	4430 टीन
सीमेंट	4774 बोरे
ट्रक टायर . .	23 अदद
मिट्टी का तेल	21220 लीटर
कच्चा तेल	45000 लीटर
डीजल तेल	1470 लीटर

जाच होने तक के लिये स्टाक सरकारी गोदामो अथवा पुलिस हिरासत मे रखे जाते हैं ।

Difference between Controlled and Market Prices of Essential Commodities

699 SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA Will the Minister of FINNACE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a big gap between controlled and market prices of essential commodities in a climate of scarcity, and

(b) if so, what effective measures Government propose to take a narrow down the gap?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Since it is only when the market prices are very high that there is need for price control, a

wide gap between the two prices is only to be expected. Government consider restoration of market prices to reasonable levels through increased production to be the most affective method of narrowing down the gap.

Assistance from IBRD for Rajasthan Canal Project Area

700. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI RAMKANWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance offered by the International Bank of Re-construction and Development for developmental activities in the Rajasthan Canal Project area

(b) how much of it has been utilised and in what manner; and

(c) whether the delay in execution of the project has jeopardised the prospect of assistance from this source and if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The IDA has agreed to advance a credit of about Rs. 62.25 crores (US $83 million) for the Rajasthan Canal Command Area Development Project.

(b) Since the Credit Agreement has not yet been signed and become effective, the question of utilisation of any amount out of the Credit, at this stage, does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchase of Ships and Supply of Wagons to Yugoslavia

701. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India are going ahead to buy four ships from Yugoslavia, despite a 10 per cent increase in the contracted price;

(b) whether Yugoslavia placed an order in October, 1970 to buy Railway Wagons from India and have declined to pay any increased price, on the pending order, when approached by Government;

(c) whether Government can rescind the contract with Yugoslavia under the terms of the contract; and

(d) what would be the total loss to Government if the contract is not rescinded?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Ships are not purchased by Government directly but by Shipping Companies. The Shipping Corporation of India recently arrived at a negotiated commercial settlement involving about 10 per cent increase in the contract prices for four ships ordered by them from the Split Shipyard in Yugoslavia. This has been approved by the Government of India.

(b) to (d). A contract for 3600 Wagons was entered into with Yugoslavia in October, 1970. As a result of several circumstances such as oil crisis, power shortages, shipping difficulties and increase in cost of production, it become necessary to renegotiate the terms of contract with the Yugoslavas. These negotiations have begun and are at present in progress.

Essential Commodities subsidised by Government

702. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of essential commodities subsidised by Government as on 1st April, 1974;

(b) the amount of subsidy per quintal or per kilogram;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision to abolish or reduce these subsidies; and

(d) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The principal essential commodities on which cash subsidy is paid by the Central Government are wheat, milo and coarse grains. For the period from 1st April to the end of June, 1974, the subsidy claimed by the Food Corporation of India has been as under:

Grains	Average rate of subsidy (Rs. per quintal)
Wheat, imported	19·91
Wheat, indigenous	5·42
Milo, imported	33·38
Coarse grains	13·44

(c) and (d). With the increase in the issue prices of wheat since 1st April, 1974, the subsidy on indigenous wheat has come down.

The question of subsidies is kept under a constant review by Government and each case is judged on its own merits.

Black Marketing in Essential Commodities

703. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the essential commodities are not sold in the country at the rates fixed by Government or by the manufacturers and consumers are forced to buy goods at black-market prices; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Reports have been received by Government from time to time regarding the sale to consumers of essential commodities at prices either fixed by Government or by the manufacturers. The Essential Commodities Act empowers the Government to issue orders to control the price at which any essential commodity may be bought or sold. Any infringement of such an order will amount to the commission of an offence under the Essential Commodities Act thereby attracting the penal provisions in that Act. The State Governments have been advised by the Government of India, from time to time, to enforce the various control orders strictly. To make the penal provisions more stringent, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1974 was promulgated on the 22nd June and is proposed to be converted into an Act of Parliament in the current Session.

Direct Flight between Bhubaneshwar and Delhi

704. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has demanded for a direct flight between Bhubaneshwar and Delhi: and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey conducted by Indian Airlines has revealed that direct flight between Bhubaneshwar and Delhi will be highly uneconomic till the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan period. The position will be reviewed again and if the demand based on load potential and fleet position of Indian Airlines justifies it, the Indian Airlines may consider a Jet service from Delhi to Bhubaneshwar via Varanasi and Calcutta.

Opening of Branch of United Commercial Bank of India at Bhandaripokhari, District Balasore, Orissa

705 SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2935 on the 10th August, 1973 regarding opening of branch of United Commercial Bank of India at Bhandaripokhari of Balasore (Orissa) and state:

(a) whether the survey has since been made to open a branch of United Commercial Bank of India at Bhandaripokhari of Balasore District of Orissa; and

(b) if so, when the proposed branch will be commissioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) United Commercial Bank has since completed the survey of the banking potential in Bhandaripokhari in Balasore District and has come to the conclusion that this centre does not at present, offer enough potentialities for opening of a bank office The Bank has further reported that the banking needs of Bhandaripokhari and its surrounding areas can be adequately met by the Banks branch at Dhamnagar

Increase in Salaries and Perquisites of Managerial Personnel in Public Sector Undertaking

706. SHRI P GANGADEB
SHRI D. D. DESAI
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move to raise salaries and perquisites of managerial personnel in the Public Sector Undertaking,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the main features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to effect a general upward revision of salaries and perquisites of managerial personnel in public enterprises. On the other hand, where due to any valid reasons, such upward revisions are required, the enterprises have been instructed to obtain the prior concurrence of Government before giving effect to their proposals This is to ensure that distortions in compensation policies are progressively eliminated

Decision on Sugar Export

707 SHRI P GANGADEB
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI
SHRI ANADICHARAN DAS:
SHRI D D DESAI
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether inter Ministerial differences are stalling a decision on quantum of sugar exports outside preferential quotas;

(b) if so the steps taken by Government to remove these hurdles, and

(c) whether higher export of sugar is likely to push up domestic prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) No, Sir. An interministerial Committee is already functioning for coordinating the measures necessary for export of sugar.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Export of sugar may have an impact on the prices of free-sale sugar only.

Reduction in Cash Reserve of R.B.I.

708 SHRI P GANGADEB·
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI
SHRI D D DESAI
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has decided to reduce the cash reserve

(b) if so whether this decision has been taken in view of the present monetary situation

(c) whether there has been any increase in the borrowing of the scheduled commercial banks from the Reserve Bank of India recently and

(d) if so, the main features thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) and (b) As a part of its credit policy for the 1974 slack season, Reserve Bank of India has, with effect from 28th June, 1974 reduced from 7 per cent to 5 per cent the cash reserved, which the scheduled commercial banks are required to maintain with it

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) While the level of borrowings varies from time to time, an analysis of the composition of the borrowings reveals that in the recent months, the higher borrowings have been mainly on account of special factors, such as increased refinance for food procurement credit, oil companies credit etc.

Credit from International Development Association for Industrial Imports

709 SHRI P GANGADEB
SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI D B CHANDRA GOWDA
SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA
SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether International Development Association has approved credit of dollars 150 million for Industrial Imports,

(b) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard

(c) if so broad features thereof,

(d) whether this will help private industries to improve raw material supply position, and

(e) if so the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) to (c) India has signed an Agreement with International Development Association on 29th May, 1974, for a Credit of about Rs 112.50 crores ($150 million) for financing the imports of raw materials, components and spares needed by industrial units in selected priority industries. The Credit carries no interest, but only a service charge of

3/4 of 1 per cent and is repayable in 50 years, with a grace period of 10 years.

(d) and (e). The Credit amount will be utilised for meeting, partly, the foreign exchange requirements of imported raw materials and components of medium and large scale enterprises, in selected priority industries, both in the private and the public sector, registered with the Directorate General of Technical Development.

Imports of raw materials and components by these enterprises will be affected either through direct procurement by them against import licences issued to them; or through canalising agencies like Hindustan Steel Limited, Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and State Trading Corporation against release orders issued to them in respect of canalised imports.

As a result of these arrangements, it is expected that raw materials supply position to these enterprises will improve.

Contract for renting premises by Indian Airlines

710. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI:

SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have entered into contract with owners of "sky scraper building" on Barakhamba Road, New Delhi for renting premises for its Offices;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) whether there is any trouble for utilising the total space rented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines have taken 18,947 sq ft. on lease for office accommodation in Kanchanjunga at 18, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi initially for a period of 5 years on the following terms and conditions —

Upper ground floor	15,441 Sq ft	@ Rs. 3.25 per sq ft. per month
Mezzanine floor.	1,070 " "	
Basement	2,436 " "	@ Rs 2.00 per sq ft per month
Total	18,947 Sq ft	

Maintenance and service charges are payable @Re 0.15 per sq. ft. per month in respect of upper ground floor and mezzanine floor Electricity and water charges are extra

(c) When in March, 1974, Indian Airlines submitted renovation plans and lay-out drawings of the proposed booking office to the NDMC for approval, the latter informed the Corporation that a 10 ft. passage is to be provided in the main hall of the upper ground floor for an elevated walk-way to be constructed by NDMC connecting all the multi-storeyed buildings along Barakhamba Road.

The matter was discussed by Indian Airlines with the owners of the building and the following decisions were taken:

(i) The rent of the upper ground floor area of 15,441 sq ft was reduced from Rs 3.25 to Rs 3.00 per sq. ft. per month with effect from 3rd January, 1974. The area falling in the proposed passage will be utilised by Indian Airlines until the passage is actually constructed.

(ii) In the event of the owners getting absolute clearance from the NDMC that they are not obliged to keep the space reserved for the

purpose and Indian Airlines are free to use the space exclusively, the original rent of Rs. 8.25 per sq. ft. per month will become payable from the date of getting such clearance.

Deputation of Ayodhya Textile Mills, Delhi to the Commerce Minister

711. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint deputation of the Ayodhya Textile Mills, Delhi met the Commerce Minister and submitted a memorandum; and

(b) if so, their main demands and action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No record of a deputation from the mill having met the Commerce Minister recently is available.

(b) The question does not arise.

Non-Supply of Yarn to the Handloom Weavers

712. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE by pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the mills are not supplying yarn to the handloom weavers even after Government have allowed more yarn to be exported; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to solve the problems of the neglected sector of the handloom industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No such complaint has been brought to the notice of Government.

(b) The Indian Cotton Mills' Federation, in consultation with the Textile Commissioner, have evolved a voluntary scheme to maintain discipline in regard to the prices of cotton yarn. Under this Scheme, the ICMF have issued instructions to the mills to maintain price levels prevailing on the 28th March, 1974. The Scheme is for the present, in force upto the 31st August, 1974 and also provides for direct lifting of cotton yarn from the mills by nominees of State Governments, apex cooperative societies and State handloom/powerloom corporations. Substantial Spinning Capacity has been and will be licensed, in order to augment the production of yarn for the handloom industry.

Decline in Export of Manufactured Tobacco

713. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of manufactured tobacco has declined in terms of quantity during 1973-74; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines and reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the tentative data compiled by the Tobacco Export Promotion Council, the exports of manufactured tobacco (Tobacco Products) during 1973-74 amounted to Rs. 1.50 crores as compared to Rs. 2.80 crores during 1972-73. The main reason for the decline was a reduced off-take of Indian cigarettes by USSR and of processed hookah tobacco by Saudi Arabia.

Raids by Income Tax Authorities on Shops of Steel Dealers in Delhi

714. SHRI S A. MURUGANANTHAM:

SHRI D P JADEJA

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA

SHRI RAMKANWAR

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA.

SHRI VEKARIA

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether recently the Income-Tax Department raided some large business houses dealing in steel and steel products in Delhi and other parts of the country and some amount of black money was unearthed and

(b) if so salient features thereof and the further action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R. GANESH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The business and residential premises and bank lockers of 4 groups of iron and steel manufacturers and dealers including the members of their families were searched recently by the Income-tax authorities Searches covered Delhi, Hissar, Ghaziabad, Gurgaon, Faridabad Kotwar and Calcutta At Bangalore, a survey operation of a manufacturing Unit belonging to one of the group was also carried out u/s 133-A of the Income-tax, 1961 In the course of the search 33 bank lockers at various places were sealed Jewellery worth Rs 29 08,830 and cash, promissory notes, fixed deposit receipts and share scrips amounting to Rs 39 97,035 have so far been recovered in these searches Besides, a large number of incriminating documents have been seized 3 of the 4 groups searched appear to have stocks of iron and steel products in excess of the quantities entered in the stock books These are being verified

The seized materials are under scrutiny Necessary proceedings under section 132(5) of the Income-tax Act 1961 for passing orders for estimating the undisclosed incomes in a summary manner have been initiated wherever necessary Further investigations are in progress both from tax evasion and prosecution angles

Decline in Export of Coir during 1973-74

715 SHRI S A MURUGANANTHAM Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the export of coir has decreased in terms of quantity during April-March 1973 74, and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C. GEORGE). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Quantity-wise exports of coir products in 1972-73 and 1973-74 are indicated below:—

(Quintals)

	1972-73	1973-74
Coir Fibre	2,985	2,755
Coir Yarn	3,19,085	2,93,731
Coir mats	1,27,486	1,23,016
Coir Mattings	19,440	26,901
Coir Rugs & Carpets	16,700	6,752
Curled coir	7,826	12,082
Other products	1,379	1,654
TOTAL	4,94,801	4,66,891

Lower offtake of coir yarn was mainly due to curtailment in the manufacture of coir products by coir industry in West Europe; reduction in the area of hop cultivation and inroads made by other rival fibres. Shipping difficulties and competition from substitute products, also contributed to the decrease in export of mats, rugs and carpets. However total value of exports increased in 1973-74 to Rs. 15.54 crores as against Rs. 14.94 crores in 1972-73.

Agreement for Loan from Sweden

716. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI BANAMALI BABU:
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently any Indo-Swedish loan agreement has been concluded; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and in what particular industry this loan is likely to be utilised?

1187 LS—4.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An Indo-Swedish Development Cooperation Agreement, 1974 was signed on 5-6-1974 which was further supplemented by an exchange of letters on 15th July, 1974.

(b) A total aid of Rs. 61.39 crores (Skr. 335 million) has been provided in the main Agreement. This aid includes assistance of Rs. 32.07 crores (Skr. 175 million) for year 1974-75 and Rs. 29.32 crores (Skr. 160 million) for year 1976-77. A special feature of the development assistance from Sweden is that each year an indication is given of assistance extending over a three-year-frame, which is helpful to India to plan for optimum utilization of the resources made available. Thus in 1972-73 Agreement, an indication had already been given that assistance to the extent of Rs. 25.65 crores (Skr. 140 million) would be available for 1975-76. Similarly in the 1972 Agreement the indication given for 1974-75 was Rs. 21.99 crores (Skr. 120 million). This has been improved upon to Rs. 32.07 crores (Skr. 175 million) as mentioned above.

Out of the assistance of Rs. 32.07 crores (Skr. 175 million) for 1974-75, an amount of Rs. 18.32 crores (Skr. 100 million) will be available for general imports by India. These resources will be in the form of a loan repayable over a period of 50 years with an initial grace period of 10 years. The loan is interest-free and, unlike the previous loans, carries no service charge. The loan is untied and can be used for financing imports from any part of the world to India's best advantage.

A provision of Rs. 6.41 crores (Skr. 35 million) has been made in the Agreement to finance imports of goods and services from Sweden. This will be in the form of grant. As in the past, this amount is expected to be utilized for import of bulk commodities such as fertilizers, paper, special steels, etc as also for capital goods and services from Sweden.

The Agreement provides for technical assistance to the extent of Rs. 7.33 crores (Skr 40 million) which will be in the form of a grant. This amount will be utilized for the implementation of several projects in the fields of family planning, health, fishing, forestry, scientific and technological research, export promotion, etc.

The resources made available by Sweden in the year 1976-77 will comprise of Rs. 15.58 crores (Skr. 85 million) for general imports and Rs. 13.74 crores (Skr. 75 million) for imports from Sweden. As in the past, the amount of technical assistance to be extended by Sweden in 1976-77 will be decided later at the time of the annual discussions for that year.

In response to U.N. Secretary General's appeal for emergency measures for countries most seriously affected by the unfavourable international price rise, the Swedish Government decided to allocate an amount of Rs. 4.58 crores (Skr. 25 million) as extra assistance to India in the form of credits for imports of goods and services required for Indian development purposes. This was given effect to by an exchange of letters on 15-7-1974, referred to in part (a) of the answer. Thus the amount of Rs. 18.32 crores (Skr. 100 million) available for general imports during 1974-75 has increased to Rs. 22.90 crores (Skr. 125 million).

The Swedish aid is not ear-marked for any specific industries. This aid supplements our own resources of foreign exchange. The amount under the General Imports Segment is usually allocated for import of capital goods from anywhere in the world on competitive basis. The amount under the Swedish Imports Segment is used mainly to import bulk commodities from Sweden such as special steel, fertilizers, paper and chemicals.

Note: The rate of exchange used is Skr. 1 = Rs. 1.832.

Indo-Zaire Agreement to Train Pilots

717. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI BANAMALI BABU
SHRI M. S SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Zaire agreement has been concluded to train pilots of National Airlines of Zaire; and

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement and when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Indo-Zaire co-operation in the field of civil aviation was discussed during the visit of Mr. Eketebi Moyidiba Mondjolomba, Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Zaire to India on the 4-6-1974. No agreement was, however, concluded between the two countries.

Visit by a Study Team to Zaire

718. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI BANAMALI BABU:
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study team is likely to be sent to Zaire to explore the areas of co-operation with that country; and

(b) if so, by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

Indo-Polish Trade Talks

719. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH
SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Polish Trade talks were held in New Delhi in June, 1974; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the talks and the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE). (a) and (b). A Polish delegation visited India in June 1974 for talks regarding the new long-term Trade and Payments Agreement between India and Poland for the next five years These negotiations were of exploratory nature and will be continued at another meeting of the delegations of the two Governments.

मध्य प्रदेश में कान्हाखेड़ा (सांची) में सुरक्षा कागज संयंत्र की स्थापना

720. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रस्ताव किया है कि मध्य प्रदेश मे कान्हाखेडा (सांची) मे एक नया सुरक्षा कागज संयंत्र स्थापित किया जाये, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और इस सम्बन्ध मे सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) जी, हा।

(ख) यह जगह भोपाल विदिशा के राजपथ के साथ लगी हुई तथा बेतवा और हलाली नदियो के दोआब पर स्थित है और विदिशा से 13 किलोमीटर तथा भोपाल से 70 किलोमीटर दूर है। सांची का रेल स्टेशन लगभग 4 किलोमीटर दूर है। अन्य जगहो के साथ-साथ, जिनके बारे में विभिन्न राज्य-सरकारो ने सुझाव दिया था इस जगह के बारे मे भी क्षेत्र चयन समिति ने विचार किया है। समिति की रिपोर्ट पर सरकार आजकल विचार कर रही है।

Taking Over of Sick Tea Gardens

721. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI RAM KANWAR:
DR. RANEN SEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether recommendations of the Task Force on Tea regarding take over of sick tea gardens by Government have been examined; and

(b) if so, how long will it take to implement them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Government are still examining the implications of the recommendations of the Task Force on Tea regarding taking over the management and rehabilitation of sick tea gardens.

Economic Crisis in Kerala

722. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that due to acute economic crisis all development activities in the State of Kerala have come to a standstill; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to help the State Government to tide over their serious economic difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The Government of Kerala are facing a difficult financial situation in the current year arising mainly out of the carry over deficit of the previous year. Discussions have already taken place with the Government of Kerala regarding this matter. Further discussions are to be held shortly on ways and means of covering the budgetary deficit and enabling the State Government to find adequate resources for their Plan.

Export of Cashew Kernal

723. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount realised from Cashew Kernel export during the last year;

(b) the quantity and value of raw cashew nuts imported in the same period;

(c) was there an increase or decrease both in exports and imports of these commodities; and

(d) the broad outlines and the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Rs. 74.62 crores (Estimated).

(b) Quantity: 1,57,554 tonnes. Value 30.52 crores.

(c) As compared to 1972-73, during 1973-74 there has been decrease in the import of raw cashewnuts both quantity-wise and value-wise, while in the case of export of cashew kernels there has been an increase value-wise while quantity-wise there was a decrease.

(d) The value of exports are estimated to have gone up by Rs. 5.80 crores but the quantity declined by 13.955 tonnes during 1973-74. The quantity of raw nuts imported during 1973-74 decreased by 43.916 tonnes as compared to 1972-73 and value of these imports decreased by 1.63 crores. The reasons for quantitative decline both in exports and imports was the smaller quantity of raw cashew nuts that was available for import.

Interest subsidy in Financing of Small Handloom Factories from Banks

724. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of interest subsidy being allowed by Banks in financing of Small handloom factories;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). Commercial banks do not give any interest subsidy for advances to handloom factories and also no such proposal is under the consideration of Government. Currently working capital funds to primary weavers' societies are provided by the Central/State Industrial Cooperative banks at concessional rates of interest for their production and marketing activities. These cooperative banks are eligible for interest subsidy from the State Governments under the Handloom Development Scheme of the Government of India and also for refinance facilities from the Reserve Bank under its scheme for handloom finance. Primary urban cooperative banks providing working capital funds to handloom factories, which are small scale Industrial units, are eligible to seek refinance from the Reserve Bank of India. These banks are, however, not eligible for the interest subsidy from the State Governments, as the subsidies are limited to handloom units in the cooperative sector only.

Decline in Export of Tassar Silk Goods to France

725. **SHRI R. P. DAS:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of overall export of Tassar silk goods having reached an all time high in 1973, its exports to France showed a fall of 33 per cent as compared to the exports in 1973; and

(b) whether his Ministry proposes to make a study of the reasons for the decline in exports to France?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. The exports of tassar silk goods to France which amounted to Rs. 11.12 lakh in 1972, declined to Rs. 7.41 lakh in 1973.

(b) It is proposed to set up a Foreign Office-cum-Silk Show Room in Frankfurt and a "Market Intelligence Wing" in the Secretariat of the Central Silk Board which, amongst other things, will monitor the trade flow of natural silk goods including trend of exports of Tassar silk goods to France.

Joint Commission by Indo-European Economic Community at Brussels

726. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:
SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH:
SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and European Economic Community Joint Commission held its first meeting on the 28th May, 1974 in Brussels;

(b) whether India pressed for further tariff and quota concessions for exports to facilitate promotion of her trade and commercial relations with the common market countries;

(c) if so, what were the other subjects discussed; and

(d) the decisions arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). The Joint Commission set up under the Commercial Cooperation Agreement between India and the European Communities held its first session in Brussels on 27th and 28th May, 1974.

2 The Joint Commission considered broadly the following subjects:—

(a) Trade in products covered by sectoral agreements like cotton textiles, jute etc.

(b) Efficient utilisation of Generalised Scheme of preferences (G.S.P.).

(c) Trade liberalisation measures including tariff adjustments proposed by India and improvements in the Community's GSP.

(d) Economic cooperation linked with trade, especially trade promotion and trade development.

3. The Joint Commission has set up two specialised sub-commissions. The first sub-commission will deal with sectoral agreements according to the specific mandates approved by the Joint Commission. The second sub-commission has been given mandate covering cooperation measures concerning liberalisation of trade in products of interest to India, study of particular measures including technical assistance for trade promotion, joint research etc.

4. The sub-commissions have started functioning and the studies made and work done by them would form the basis of further discussions in the Joint Commission.

Indo-Finnish Joint Commission

727. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Finnish Joint Commission is proposed to be set up to identify area of co-operation between the two countries;

(b) if so, when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(c) whether India has sought more Finnish newsprint; and

(d) whether any agreement has been signed between the two countries after Indian Minister's visit to that country in May, 1974?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An understanding was reached during the visit of the Minister (Commerce) to Finland in May, 1974 for the establishment of an Indo-Finnish Joint Commission.

(c) During the visit discussions of the Minister (Commerce) in Finland in May, 1974 the need for increased continued long-term supply and accelerated shipments of newsprint to India was emphasized.

(d) Apart from an Exchange of Letters dated 22-5-1974, for the establishment of an Indo-Finnish Joint Commission, no other agreement was signed.

Discussions with States for mobilising Additional Resources

728. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to have discussions with the States for mobilising additional resources;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the reaction of State Governments therto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). The Union Finance and Planning Ministers are having discussions with the State Chief Ministers to highlight the need for reducing non-Plan expenditures and for raising additional resources, with particular reference to the comparatively affluent sections of the agricultural sector and to minimise the losses on the investments in irrigation and power projects. Discussions have so far been held with the Chief

Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Assam and West Bengal. They have agreed to consider the suggestions made in this regard.

Rise in Price Index

729. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI M. M. JOSEPH:
SHRI G. P. YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey has pointed out that the price index has gone up by 30 per cent in last six months of 1974;

(b) if so, the reasons and facts thereof; and

(c) steps taken to control the price rise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) We are not aware of any such survey. The Wholesale Price Index (1961-62=100) for All Commodities shows a rise of 16.5 per cent between December 1973 and June 1974.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For checking an undue rise in prices and the build-up of inflationary pressures, Government have, from time to time, adopted several measures monetary, fiscal as well as other and have as part of their anti-inflationary drive, recently promulgated three Ordinances providing for restrictions on dividends, compulsory deposits of additional emoluments and 50 per cent of additional D.A. and also by self-employed persons in the higher income groups. Another Ordinance was also issued in June 1974 to ensure more effective enforcement of the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and checking profiteering and hoarding in respect of some commodities of mass consumption.

Amendment of Tea Act

730. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Tea Act; and

(b) if so, the main objectives for amending the Act and when the amendment is to be brought forward?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Proposals for amending the Act, in regard to the taking over of the management of the sick tea gardens and management through appropriate agencies to nurse them back to normalcy are under consideration of Government The implications of the measures are now being examined.

Steps taken by Air India and Indian Airlines to save aviation fuel

731. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders for purchase of Jumbo jets for international service has been cancelled in view of fuel shortage;

(b) if so, the facts of the case; and

(c) what other steps have been taken by Air India and the Indian Airlines for saving aviation fuel by rationalising the types of aircraft to be put into service at various routes with a view to minimising vacant capacity carried by different services?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Due to the unprecedented increase in the price of aviation fuel and also uncertainty

about availability Air-India had, with the permission of Government cancelled the order for the 5th Boeing 747 last year Now as the fuel situation is showing signs of stabilisation and traffic demand and fare levels have gone up Air-India have revived the proposal

(c) The Airlines endeavour their utmost to rationalise the deployment of aircraft on the various routes depending upon landing rights (applicable largely in the case of Air-India only) load offerings and runway and other operational facilities available

Export of Fruits

732 SHRI E V VIKHE PATIL Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned by export of fruits during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 and

(b) the names of the countries which are the main buyers of Indian fruits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) The value of fruits fresh or dried (including artificially dehydrated) and edible nuts (not including oil nuts) exported during 1972-73 to 1973 74 (upto Jan '74) is given below —

Year	Value (Rs lakhs)
1972-73	7297
1973-74 (Upto Jan '74)	7772

(b) A statement is attached

Statement

Names of the major countries to which fruits fresh and dried (including artificially dehydrated and edible nuts) were exported by India during 1972-73 to 1973-74 (upto January, 1974)

S. No.	Name of Country
1	USA
2	USSR
3.	Canada
4	Japan
5	Netherland
6	Australia
7	UK
8	Czechoslovakia
9	German Fed Rep
10	France
11	Singapore
12	Kuwait
13	Iran
14	Bangladesh
15	Qatar
16	Dubai
17	Italy
18	Baharein Island.
19	Muscat
20	Nepal
21	Afghanistan
22	S Yemen P Rep
23	Saudi Arabia
24	Spain
25	German Demo Rep
26	Hongkong

Non-Payment of customs duty on Electronic Calculator Brought by Indians from Abroad

733. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian returning to Delhi from a visit overseas can bring in an electronic calculator completely free of duty;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) whether the same rule applies to Indians coming to Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH): (a) Under the Baggage Rules, 1970, a passenger is entitled to duty free allowance of article upto a value of Rs. 500 provided the articles are for the use of the passenger or his family or for making gifts and souvenirs. The concession does not cover a few costly luxury articles listed in the Baggage Rules. A calculator of a value less than Rs 500 can be brought free of duty under the Baggage Rules. Delhi is acting accordingly.

(b) The above Baggage Rules have been operative from June, 1970. It is only during the last one year or so that electronic calculators of a value less than Rs 500 have been brought by passengers.

(c) Baggage Rules, 1970, apply to passengers coming at any port or airport in India including Bombay. The practice obtained at Bombay is being checked.

Demand of Yarn by Weavers of Eastern U.P.

734. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether weavers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh have put forward their demand for yarn;

(b) if so, whether it has been supplied at par with their request; and

(c) if not, the reasons and broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) No demand for yarn from weavers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, has been received by the Textile Commissioner.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Effect on Indian Airlines due to Increase in Excise duty and Sales Tax

735. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increase in excise duty and sales tax on aviation turbine fuel had crippling effect on Indian Airlines finances and the expenditure on aviation fuel;

(b) if so, the extent of loss during 1973-74 on this account; and

(c) whether Indian Airlines have made any requests to State Governments to reduce both the excise duty and sales tax?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The very steep increases in the price of aviation turbine fuel and excise duty, and in some States in the incidence of sales tax have imposed a very heavy financial burden on Indian Airlines. The additional expenditure due to increased excise duty and sales tax on aviation fuel during 1973-74 was of the order of Rs. 146 lakhs. In consequence on the increases in fuel prices, the fuel bill of Indian Airlines will go up by about Rs. 27 crores over a full year's operations.

(c) Indian Airlines has made representations to certain State Governments for a reduction in the rate of sales-tax and to the Central Government in respect of fuel prices including the excise duty component.

Meeting of aid India consortium

736. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA:

SHRI PILOO MODY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state·

(a) whether the Aid India Consortium held its meetings m June, 1974; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken by the doner countries for giving financial assistance to India and if so, the main features thereof and how does it compare with the assistance given last year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN)· (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the meeting of the Aid India Consortium was held on 13th and 14th June, 1974 in Paris At the meeting members agreed that for the year beginning April, 1974, commitments of non-project assistance, including free foreign exchange predominantly in the form of debt relief, of about US $ 800 million and of Project Assistance of about US $ 600 million, would be desirable. Most members indicated the contribution they would be able to make subject to necessary approvals. Others expected to be able to do so later in the year and gave their support to the overall programme. This is higher than the corresponding figures of commitments for the year 1973-74 of $ 700 million of non-project aid and $ 500 million of project aid which the Consortium meeting had considered desirable for the year 1973-74

Suspension of export of industrial goods by Canada

737. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA:

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS::

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government of Canada had at any time sounded Government of India in the recent past about their intention to suspend export of industrial goods and also snap other economic relations,

(b) if so, whether any reason for the same was also indicated; and

(c) what is Government's approach in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) to (c) Reacting to India's peaceful nuclear experiment on the 18th May, 1974, the Canadian Foreign Minister announced, at a press conference m Ottawa on the 22nd May, 1974, the suspension of aid and equipment to India in the field of nuclear cooperation, pending bilateral discussions While Canada has suspended further supplies in the field of nuclear energy development, its assistance to India in the areas of food, fertilizers and agricultural development remains uneffected. As regards assistance in other fields, Government of Canada have asked that all proposed contracts for which Canadian financing is intended under existing loan arrangements should first be submitted to the Canadian International Development Agency for review.

The bilateral discussions proposed by Canada will be held in Ottawa from the 29th to 31st July, 1974.

Introduction of compulsory insurance Scheme for Central Government Employees

738. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Third Pay Commission has recommended introduction of compulsory insurance for Central Government employees on payment of Rs. 5/- for Rs. 5000/- on death or return of the actual money subscribed on retirement;

(b) whether the L.I.C. has also suggested that the scheme will require no subsidy and the employees contribution will be sufficient to run the scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting the scheme which gives social security to employees with no financial liability of Government; and

(d) when the scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The Commission has recommended that all existing permanent employees and temporary employees with one year's service on regular establishment should be given the option to be governed by this scheme, and it should be made compulsory for all such categories of employees who enter Government service in future.

(b) The L.I.C. have suggested a group insurance scheme to the Delhi Administration in respect of their employees which is somewhat different from the scheme recommended by the *Third Pay Commission*.

(c) and (d). The scheme recommended by the Third Pay Commission has been discussed with the representatives of the Staff Side in the National Council of the J.C.M. They have not favoured it on the ground that the scheme covers only the risk of death during service and does not provide any benefit (apart from the return of the principal amount) on retirement. They want a scheme which may provide equal benefit both at the time of death in service as well as at the time of retirement. The benefit of Rs. 5000 on death during service will naturally get reduced under any such scheme. The alternatives worked out in this connection will now be discussed further with the representatives of the Staff Side shortly before taking a decision in the matter.

Purchase of Boeing-737 Aircraft by Indian Airlines

739 SHRI D. P. JADEJA:

SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines will add four advanced versions of Boeing-737 to its fleet during the current year;

(b) if so, how the cost in regard to purchase of the aircraft will be financed; and

(c) whether the addition of four aircraft will provide better service to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir, one aircraft in replacement of the Boeing 737 that was lost in the crash on 31st May, 1973 and the remaining three to augment the existing capacity.

(b) The cost of the replacement aircraft will be met mostly from the insurance claim for the aircraft lost. Ten per cent of the total project cost of the remaining three aircraft will be met from internal resources and the balance by Loans from the EXIM Bank and U.S. commercial banks.

(c) Yes, Sir. The addition of these aircraft will provide additional capacity on the trunk and other high density routes.

Scheme for round the World Air Travel by Air India

740. SHRI D. P. JADEJA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a scheme by Air India for the round the world travel at 1,000 dollars to attract more tourists;

(b) if so, when the scheme is likely to be put into operation; and

(c) whether the introduction of such scheme will also increase the profits of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Air India proposes to approach the IATA soon for the introduction of a round-the-world group inclusive tour of US $ 1000 per passenger for groups of 10 passengers The scheme can be put into operation only after the IATA has given its approval to it It would be difficult at this stage to indicate the date when the scheme would become effective.

(c) The introduction of such a scheme will no doubt generate additional tourist traffic and it is anticipated that Air India will get its share of such additional traffic thereby augmenting its revenues.

Withdrawal of Tea Exports from London Auction

741. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea exports have been withdrawn from London auction; and

(b) if so, the reasons and particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Volume of Imports/exports during First seven months in 1974

742. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) figures about total exports/imports for the first seven months in 1974;

(b) the total earnings from exports; and

(c) the total deficit in import bill?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C GEORGE): (a) to (c). According to the latest data published by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta imports during the first five months January—May, 1974 were Rs. 1344 crores and exports (including re-exports) amounted to Rs 1175 crores resulting in an adverse balance of trade of the order of Rs. 69 crores.

India's membership of the association of Natural Rubber Producing countries

743. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India intends to become a member of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) what are the special benefits to be attained thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) India has decided to become a Member of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing countries.

(b) The broad outlines of the objectives of the Association are.—

(i) To bring coordination in production and marketing of natural rubber;

(ii) To promote technical cooperation among members;

(iii) To bring about fair and stable prices for natural rubber;

(iv) To review short-term and long-term problems facing industry; and

(v) To promote Research and Development in production, marketing and consumption.

(c) India will have the benefit of the studies and observations made by other Natural Rubber Producing countries in the world in different fields of rubber, including Research and Development.

Exports Affected by Railway Strike

744. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the last Railway strike has affected our exports, and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The All India Railway Strike lasted from 8th May, 1974 to 28th May, 1974. The latest data for exports is for the month of May, 1974. According to the data published by Director General Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta, exports (including re-exports) during May, 1974 amounted to Rs 214 crores as against Rs. 174 crores during the corresponding period of 1973.

Formulation of three years rolling plans for Branch Expansion by Banks

745. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9215 on the 3rd May, 1974 regarding opening of branches of nationalised banks in Tripura, Mizoram, Arunachal, Manipur, Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and Bihar and state:

(a) whether the three-year rolling plans for branch expansion have since, been formulated by the Banks; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof with particular reference to the Districts of North Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that while a number of banks have drawn up rolling plans for branch expansion for the period 1974-1976, in the case of some others precise plans have not yet emerged.

The Reserve Bank of India has further reported that for the districts of North Bihar, as at the end of May, 1974, commercial banks had on hand 20 licences/allotments for opening branches. In addition, the banks whose rolling plans have already been finalised have been issued 7 more licences for opening branches in those districts.

Report of High Power Study Team on Handloom Industry

746. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9940 on the 10th May, 1974 regarding memorandum by All India Weavers Federation and state:

(a) whether the High Power Study Team has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereabout and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) if not, whether any time limit has been fixed for submission of the report;

(d) whether nominees of the State Governments opened depots and actual weavers were getting adequate yarn at the price prevalent on the 28th March, 1974; and

(e) if so, the broad outlines thereabout, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving important recommendations of the Study Team is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8058/74]. The Study Team's report has yet to be examined by Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). No information about opening of depots by the State Government nominees is available. The pegging of prices of cotton yarn at the level prevailing on the 28th March, 1974, is with reference to deliveries by mills. There is, therefore, no question of actual weavers getting supplies of yarn at the prices prevailing on the 28th March, 1974.

Instrument Landing System at Delhi Airport

747. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some international airlines have pointed out to the Civil Aviation Directorate that the Instrument Landing System at Delhi Airport is not working efficiently; and

(b) if so, what corrective measures have been taken in this regard to allay the fears of the pilots of various international airlines?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). In April, 1974 some airlines complained to the Civil Aviation Department that the glide path component of the instrument landing system at Delhi airport was not functioning satisfactorily. Director General of Civil Aviation called for reports from international airlines in May, 1974. Of the reports received, twentyeight indicated normal performance while nine stated that the performance of the glide path component was unsatisfactory. The ground checks carried out by Director General of Civil Aviation have confirmed that the Instrument Landing System was working satisfactorily and so have the debriefing reports received subsequently from the various airlines. Even so the Instrument Landing System would be kept under strict check and supervision to ensure its infallible and dependable functioning as a landing aid.

Target of Exports of Engineering Goods for 1973-74

748. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of exports of engineering goods for the year 1973-74 has not been fulfilled; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Against the target of Rs 200 crores, export of engineering goods during 1973-74 are estimated at Rs. 180.11 crores.

(b) Shortfall in achieving the target has been attributed to the following constraints:—

(i) Shortage of basic raw materials like aluminium and copper.

(ii) Substantial increase in the prices of various categories of steel and pig iron.

(iii) Strikes, Go-slow movements etc. in ports and Railways hindering movement of export goods.

(iv) Shortage of power.

(v) Shortage of shipping space.

Increase in Fares by Air India

749. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has further increased the fares from July this year;

(b) if so, the extent of increase and the total accummulated increase in fares during the past nine months; and

(c) the estimated profit or loss of Air India during the current year in view of the increase in fuel price and fares?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Effective July 1, 1974 Air-India along with all IATA carriers have increased fares on the following routes by 4 per cent:

(i) India Europe/Middle East/ Africa.

(ii) India Far East/Australasia;

(b) Fares were increased by IATA airlines by 6 per cent with effect from 1st January, 1974 (4 per cent in certain areas) and 7 per cent with effect from different dates in March and April, 1974.

(c) These fare increases were adopted by IATA to offset part of the increase in fuel prices. The latest increase of 4 per cent effective July 1st is expected to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 4 crore to Air-India. It will not completely compensate increase in cost but will reduce the gap.

Utilisation of services of Unemployed pilots

750. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airlines in the country have been instructed to utilise the services of unemployed pilots holding licences of professional categories for ground duties; and

(b) if so, whether any practical steps have been taken according to these instructions?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Both Indian Airlines and Air India have been advised to recruit unemployed commercial pilots on ground duties, wherever possible

(b) Air India had absorbed six unemployed pilots as Flight Operations Officers, but two of them have left the Corporation to join Indian Airlines as pilots. Indian Airlines have recruited 28 pilots who are undergoing training. 27 more are on a panel, the life of which is now valid till December 31, 1975

Task Force on Textile Industries during Fifth Plan

751. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of cotton during 1973-74 as compared to the production in 1971-72;

(b) whether the Fifth Plan Task Force on Textile Industries has projected substantive expansion of spinning and weaving capacities of cotton textiles to meet the additional demand of yarn and cloth for domestic consumption and export; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) 1971-72 cotton year—65.64 lakh bales.

1973-74 cotton year—58 lakh bales.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Task Force on Textile Industries has estimated the requirements of cotton yarn and cloth by 1978-79 at 1300 million kgs. and 10,400 million metres respectively. This would require creation of 5.71 million additional spindles and 85,510 additional looms over the levels obtaining in 1972. After reckoning with the expansion of spindle age and loomage already recommended during the Fourth Plan period, the capacity to be created during the Fifth Plan works out to 3.21 million spindles and 70,510 looms.

Steps to check inflation in India

752. SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to solve the problem of inflation in this country by Indexing of new financial savings on the Brazilian pattern; and

(b) if so, the main features of the new proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rise in prices of essential commodities due to rail strike

753. SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rail strike has pushed up the price of essential commodities by 40 per cent during May, 1974;

(b) what were the commodities affected; and

(c) whether the prices have gone down after the strike was over?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The movement in the indices of the official series of wholesale price index does not warrant such a statement.

The price indices available from the official series of the Wholesale Price Index published by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India Ministry of Industrial Development, indicate that over the period May 4, 1974 to June 1, 1974 the overall price index registered a rise of about 3 per cent.

Rise in price index and payment of D.A. to Central Government employees

754. SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:
SHRI PILOO MODY:
SHRI DHAMANKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumer price index till May, 1974 had reached 275 points;

(b) if so, the average 12-monthly price index month-wise from January to June, 1974;

(c) whether three more instalments of Dearness Allowance have become due to Central Government employees from April, 1974 as per recommendations of the Third Pay Commission;

(d) if so, whether the due instalments of D.A have been paid to Central Government employees and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the additional financial burden on the exchequer as a result thereof; and

(f) at what point the D.A. will be merged with the basic pay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The All India Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial Workers for the month of May, 1974 stood at 284. The 12-monthly average of the Price Index from January to May 1974 is as follows.—

Month	12 monthly average of the Price Index
JANUARY 1974	240·50
FEBRUARY 1974	245·00
MARCH 1974	249·91
APRIL 1974	255·08
MAY 1974	260·58

The figures for June, 1974 have not yet become available.

(c) and (d). In terms of the Third Pay Commission's recommendations, two more instalments of additional dearness allowance have become due, one from 1st April 1974 and another from 1st June 1974. The question of granting them is under consideration.

(e) The additional expenditure on account of the instalment due from 1st April 1974 will be about Rs. 52 crores in a full year and Rs. 48 crores in the current year and that on account of the instalment due from 1st June 1974 will be about Rs. 50 crores in a full year and Rs. 38 crores in the current year Only 50 per cent of the additional dearness allowance will, however be payable to the employees in cash in accordance with the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Ordinance, 1974.

(f) Government have no such proposal under consideration at present.

Major changes in aviation policy for making aircraft operation economic

755. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:
SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:
SHRI M. S. PURTY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether major changes in the aviation policy, in view of the steep rise in aviation fuel prices, making aircraft operation economic, have been suggested by the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof and the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agreement between India and USSR to buy more Cardamom and castor oil

756. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Union is to buy more cardamom and castor oil from India as a result of six day discussion between Indian trade delegation and U.S.S.R.;

(b) if so, what were the other agreements reached; and

(c) what steps will be taken by the U.S.S.R. to help India in oil and Petroleum crisis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An overall review of the implementation of the 1974 trade protocol was made. Besides cardamom and castor oil, provisions for export of some other items from India to USSR such as medicines and pharmaceuticals, dye-stuffs and intermediates, raw materials for the production of medicines, automobile ancillaries, cosmetics, HPS groundnuts, etc., were increased.

(c) USSR is assisting in the oil exploration and production programme of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and is also supplying certain quantities of petroleum products to India.

Reduction in excise duty on robusta coffee

757. SHRI R. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has been requested by Kerala or any other Southern States to reduce the excise duty on robusta coffee and to subsidise the supply of fertilizers and pesticides to coffee growers;

(b) whether the Coffee Board has also recommended a reduction in the excise duty on robusta coffee; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Such a recommendation has been received from the Coffee Board.

(c) It has not been found possible to accept the recommendations of the Coffee Board for reasons already set out in Finance Minister's reply during the debate on the 1974 Budget in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May 1974. Given in the Statement enclosed. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8058/74]

Changes in lending policies of Asian Development Bank

758. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has reoriented its lending programmes to assist the developing member countries to meet the situation created by the present energy crisis and world-wide inflation; and

(b) if so, the new schemes drawn by it towards this end and the particulars of assistance received by our country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Asian Development Bank is seized of the problems faced by the developing member countries as a result of the present energy crisis and global phenomena of scarcity and inflation. The Bank contemplates assisting such countries by undertaking

a range of activities which constitute a pragmatic reorientation and redirection of some of the Bank's on-going operations. In order to meet the additional external aid requirements of developing member countries, the Bank is continuing its efforts, in co-ordination with other international financial institutions, to bring into the co-operative international aid efforts the new and important sources of development financing created by the present energy situation. India, however, as a matter of policy, has not borrowed from the Bank.

Setting up of a Tobacco Board

759. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to set up Tobacco Board to co-ordinate production, marketing and export of tobacco;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) when this Board is likely to come into existence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Requisite legislation for setting up the Tobacco Board will be introduced shortly in the Parliament.

(c) The Board will be set up as soon as possible after necessary Act for the purpose is passed by the Parliament and after it comes into force.

Import of cotton by C.C.I.

760. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile mills have expressed unhappiness over the manner of import of cotton by the Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering returning cotton import to trade channels;

(c) whether Cotton Corporation of India failed to advise the Mills about the cotton position in international market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the working of the Cotton Corporation of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Smuggling of opium to Sri Lanka

761. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smuggling of opium from India to Sri Lanka has been on the increase,

(b) if so, the number of cases detected during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to further tighten the anti-smuggling drive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) According to the intelligence reports received from time to time, it appears that smuggling of opium from India to Sri Lanka has not been on the increase.

(b) During the year 1973, there have been six cases in which opium was seized at different places in Tamil Nadu. However during the current year upto June 1974, there has not been any case of opium seizure in Tamil Nadu.

(c) (i) All enforcement agencies of the State and Central Governments, such as State Excise, Police, Drug Control Administration, Customs and Central Excise, Central Bureau of Investigation, Narcotics Department, Railway Protection Force etc, are always on the alert to intercept persons engaged in illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. The watch extends to places in the interior as well as on the border and coastal areas Meetings are periodically arranged amongst senior officers of these organisations with a view to coordinate and strengthen the anti-smuggling measures.

(ii) For better coordination of anti-smuggling work on coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, a new Collectorate of Customs and Central Excise has been set up at Madurai since April 1971. Meetings are held between India and Sri Lanka Customs authorities to assess the problems of smuggling between the two countries The last such conference was held at Madras in January, 1973

Capital raised by public issue by owners of Khab Kajora, Parsea and New Satgram

762 SHRI ARVIND M PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the replies given to Unstarred Question No 4269 on the 28th April, 1972 and Unstarred Question No 3108 on the 14th March 1974 regarding capital raised by Coal Mining Companies and IBRD loan to Coal Industry respectively and state:

(a) the amount of capital raised by public issue by the owners of Khas Kajora, Parsea and New Satgram coal companies during the last three years;

(b) the names of the Coal Mining companies which are public limited companies and their subscribed capital as on 31st March, 1973;

(c) the amount raised by each public issue of share capital other than by amalgamation or capitalisation of Reserves; and

(d) the number of shareholders of each of the above companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R GANESH): (a) and (c). No capital has been raised by public issue of share capital by Khas Kajora, Parsea and New Satgram Coal Companies during the last three years.

(b) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Decline in India's share in world exports

763 SHRI MADHU LIMAYE. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's share in world exports, which was already low, has declined further in the years 1972 and 1973;

(b) if so, the magnitude of this decline, and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check this decline and achieve a relative increase in India's share in world exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) and (b) After having remained at 0 65 percent in 1972, the same level as in 1971 India's share in the world exports declined marginally to 0 63 per cent in 1973

(c) The measures being taken by the Government to promote exports include strengthening production base of export oriented industries, orientation of the import policy for 1974-75 for export promotion, simplification of procedure for cash compensatory support and import replenishment licences etc. As a result of these and other measures it is hoped that rate of growth of India's exports will catch up with that of world exports and decline in our share therein would be contained.

Figures of textile exports

764. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our textile exports reached the highest peak in 1972;

(b) if so, the figures of exports, month-wise during the year 1973 and the corresponding, month-wise figures in the year 1972, and

(c) whether export performance has improved in the year 1973?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) Our cotton textile exports during 1972 were better than those during any of the earlier years

(b) A statement is attached

(c) Yes, Sir

Statement

Month-wise exports of cotton textiles from India during 1972 and 1973

Month	1972 (Rs crores)	1973 (Rs crores)
January	11 58	246 13*
February	9 8	
March	15·33	
April	9 17	7 97
May	10 97	13 82
June	9 95	10 86
July	12 72	17.66
August	13 93	14 62
September	17 39	34 92
October	40 91*	26 52
November		24 04
December		29 81
Total	151 77	226 35

*Separate month-wise figures have not been published by D. G. C. I. & S.

Vast potential of Punjab Industries

765. SHRI DEVINDRA SINGH GARCHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey carried out by the Marketing Research Division of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has revealed the vast potential of Punjab industries,

(b) whether this survey has made recommendations or suggestions to promote exports in the various sectors of the State industries; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines of the schemes suggested?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Apart from making suggestions on product development, modification and expansion, the survey has suggested the creation of requisite organizational set up for export promotion at the state level which include

(i) Constitution of Punjab—State Export Promotion Board under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister,

(ii) Setting up of export promotion wing in the Dte. of Industries;

(iii) Re-activisation of Punjab State Export Corporation,

(iv) Setting up of Export Marketing groups for items like bicycles complete, handtools, small tools, machine tools, industrial fasteners domestic appliances, woollen hosiery and sports goods;

(v) Re-organising the activities of the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation for facilitating quicker flow of raw materials to export oriented units in the State.

Late shipment of greasy wool from Australia by STC

766 SHRI K MALLANNA. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Hosiery Exporters have claimed from the State Trading Corporation damages due to late shipment of greasy wool from Australia causing a huge loss of foreign exchange to India, and

(b) if so, the extent of loss of foreign exchange suffered by India due to mishandling of purchases by the State Trading Corporation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) and (b) No damages as such have been claimed Due to the conditions prevailing in the exporting country shipping problems and other factors there was delay in shipment of greasy wool whereas in the meantime international wool prices have declined The Hosiery Exporters and Woollen industry's main request among other things is for wool now to be supplied at discounted prices due to delayed arrival and present lower international prices Discussions between the STC and the representatives of the industry are taking place to find a suitable solution

Wage Freeze in Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings

767 SHRI K MALLANNA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether in view of the current financial crisis, there will be no wage increases by Government or the public sector undertaking for a specified period, and

(b) if so the salient features of the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b) In so far the Central Government employees are concerned, the Award of the 3rd Pay Commission has only recently been made applicable The wage revisions in their case are therefore not due for quite some time In the public sector undertakings the wages of the employees, not covered by the award of the Third Pay Commission, would similarly be covered by the wage agreements/awards applicable to them The intention of the recent Ordinance on compulsory deposits of additional emoluments is not to come in the way of normal wage negotiations whenever due

IMF's meeting in Washington

768 SHRI NIHAR LASKAR

SHRI TARUN GOGOI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India also attended the World Monetary Fund meeting in Washington in June 1974 and

(b) if so the subjects discussed there and the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) Yes Sir An Indian delegation led by the Finance Minister attended the sixth and final meeting of the Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund on Reform of the International Monetary System and Related Issues (the Committee of Twenty) held in Washington on June 12-13 1974

(b) The subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at are reflected in the Communique issued at the end of the meeting a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See* No LT-8058/74]

Raid by Income Tax Officer in Amraoti

769. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in December, 1972 District Income Tax Officer, Amraoti (Maharashtra) seized various documents from "Vijay Hosiery", Sant Kunwarram Market, Amraoti;

(b) if so, the particulars of the documents seized and investigations made so far in the matter;

(c) whether during investigations of this case, different officers have been appointed to look into the case; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps being taken to expedite the case to punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R GANESH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities

770. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last six months prices of all essential commodities have increased manifold;

(b) if so, the prevailing prices as compared to those prevailing during the last three years; and

(c) steps being taken to reduce the prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). During the past six months, the wholesale prices of different commodities have moved in different directions and in different degrees. A statement giving the comparative movements of price indices is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See* No. LT-8059/74].

(c) For checking an undue rise in prices and the building-up of inflationary pressures, the Government have from time to time adopted several measures—monetary, fiscal as well as other—and have, as part of their anti-inflationary drive, recently promulgated three Ordinances providing for restrictions on dividends, compulsory deposits of additional emoluments and 50 per cent of additional D.A. and also by self-employed persons in the higher income groups. Another Ordinance was also issued in June 1974 to ensure more effective enforcement of the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and checking profiteering and hoarding in respect of some commodities of mass consumption.

Tightening of Economy Measures

771. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken recently to further tighten the economy measures in view of the continued difficult position and inflation;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) savings made by each Ministry so far since economy measures were first introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). To combat the inflationary situation in the country, a series of measures have been taken by the Government over the past year.

2. In 1973-74, strict economy measures were introduced in the non-Plan expenditure of Government, with a view to restricting the extent of deficit financing:—

Economy in contingencies and travelling allowances; deferment of construction of non-functional buildings which have not proceeded beyond the plinth level, deferment of annual repairs and maintenance of Government buildings except a few prestigious buildings; ban on creation of new posts which have remained vacant for more than six months; deferment of rotational transfer of officers in various branches of Government to save on transfer allowances, savings in petrol consumption by departmental vehicles and on telephone calls; economies in expenditure on entertainment and foreign travel; economy in expenses involved in holding of conferences; seminars and meetings keeping to a minimum invitations for holding international gatherings; directing the public sector undertakings to minimise their cash losses by generating more internal resources through efficient functioning; etc.

In addition, it was found necessary to effect some reductions in Plan expenditure as well. This was done in such a manner that progress of key projects and programmes which are critical to the economy and are in an advanced stage of completion was not affected, while projects and schemes which were less essential and would require a relatively long period to mature were slowed down.

3. It was expected that the introduction of the measures outlined above would result in an aggregate saving of Rs. 400 crores. These economy measures have been implemented, by and large, by the different Ministries/Departments. The assessment of savings made in 1973-74 in the different Ministries/Departments is given in the enclosed Statement.

4. Many of the economy measures relating to the non-Plan administrative expenditure of Government are being continued in 1974-75 also. Instructions have been issued for strict implementation of the measures relating to deferment of construction of non-functional buildings, annual repairs and maintenance of Government buildings, ban on creation of new posts and filling up of posts which have remained vacant for more than six months and savings in use of paper and petrol consumption by departmental vehicles and on telephone calls. Orders have also been issued for economies in building construction programme through adoption of temporary specification and reduction in plinth area wherever possible, and avoidance of exterior and interior ornamentation Recently, orders have been issued for effecting 20 per cent reduction in the number of telephones under each Ministry/Department in Delhi and State capitals.

5 In addition, a review of the Plan and non-Plan budgets has been undertaken to locate possible areas of additional economy.

Statement

S.No.	Ministry/Department	Total Saving Reported (Rs. in crores)
1.	Agriculture	13·84
2.	Food	4·47
3.	Community Development	5 40
4.	Co-operation	10·13
5.	Indian council of Agricultural Research	3·87
6.	Commerce	0·34
7.	Communication and OCS	0·02
8.	Posts and Telegraphs	3·29
9.	Education	11·76

S.No.	Ministry/Department	Totals aving Rep rted (Rs. in crores)
10.	Social Welfare	2·48
11.	Economic Affairs (Finance)	2·93
12.	Banking (Finance)	7 50
13.	Expenditure (Finance)	158 45*
14.	Revenue & Insurance (Finance)	3 13
15.	Health	4 60
16.	Family Planning	6 25
17.	Heavy Industry	8 54
18.	Home Affairs	1 40
19.	Industrial Development	8 76
20.	Information and Braodcating	3 68
21.	Irrigation and Power	23 98
22.	Labour and Employment	0 32
23.	Rehabilitation	2 52
24.	Petroleum and Chemicals	15 62
25.	Shipping & Transport	24 41
26.	Steel	31·72
27.	Mines	9·71
28.	Tourism and Civil Aviation.	4 69
29.	Works & Housing	5 30
30.	Science and Technology	2 25
31.	Prime Minister's Secretariat	0 02
32.	President's Secretariat	0 02
33.	Supreme Court	0 01
34.	Planning Commission	0 06
	TOTAL	381 47

*includes Rs. 93.98 crores savings in Central assistance to State Plan, Rs. 34 crores savings in Employment Schemes and Rs. 30 crores savings in Advance action for Fifth Five Year Plan.

Demurrage charges for not clearing Newsprint consignment from ombay Port

772. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had to pay the demurrage charges recently for not clearing in time the newsprint consignment from Bombay port: and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in clearing the consignment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) S.T.C. had to pay Rs 27,392.78 as demurrage

(b) There was no avoidable delay in clearing the consignment. During this period there were other vesse's also containing newsprint which were being cleared and there was also considerable congestion at Bombay Port.

Effect of Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Ordinance on Government Employees

773 SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing hardships likely to be faced by Government employees as a result of promulgation of Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Ordinance; and

(b) the remedial action Government propose to take to improve the conditions of Government employees who are already badly hit by soaring prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Government are aware of the hardships faced by Government employees by the steady increase in prices. Periodical adjustments in wages and dearness allowance have in the past only accentuated the infla-

tionary process. The decision to impound additional wages and 50 per cent of dearness allowance is a part of the package programme intended to reduce the money supply and thereby arrest the price spiral. The package of measures will no doubt entail certain sacrifices for a temporary period by different sections of the community. However, it is Government's expectation that these measures will impart a certain stability to the economy and will bring lasting enefits to all sections of the community.

Flights between Delhi and Calcutta touching Lucknow Airport

774 SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether no flights between Delhi and Calcutta touch the Lucknow airport;

(b) whether the discontinuance of such service is causing great inconvenience to the public; and

(c) the reasons for such discontinuance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). According to the current schedule there is no flight between Delhi and Calcutta touching Lucknow A Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Calcutta Boeing service is being considered for the winter schedule 1974-75.

Non-availability of Towels and Soaps at Indian Air Ports

775 SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether towels and soaps are no longer available in the toilet of various Indian airports; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Towels and soaps are available at Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay airports maintained by the International Airports Authority of India as well as at all the domestic aerodromes maintained by the Civil Aviation Department. However, recently soap was not available at Varanasi aerodrome for two weeks due to its non-availability in the market at the normal rates, but it has now been made available.

Sale of Coarse Cloth

776. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules or regulations have been framed by Government regarding the sale of coarse cloth to particular income group of persons;

(b) if so, in what manner fair and proper sale of such cloth is ensured; and

(c) whether the weaker sections of the people in U P are mostly denied the benefit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) No statutory rules have been framed to this effect, but guidelines have been suggested to State Governments.

(b) and (c) Distribution of controlled cloth at the retail level is the responsibility of State Governments. Each State Government has its own norms for distribution of this cloth, suiting the local conditions. However, the State Governments have been advised that a system should be evolved by them for sale of controlled cloth against ration/house-hold cards, etc., and that the maximum quantity per family that may be sold periodically may also be fixed. They have also been advised to restrict sale of controlled cloth to persons upto a specified income level.

Submission of report by the Committee appointed to Rationalise Pay Scales of Officers in Nationalised Banks

777. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by Government to rationalise the pay scales of officers in the Nationalised Banks has submitted its Report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). The Committee submitted its Report to the Government on 30th May, 1974.

The Committee has examined the principles that should govern the structure of pay scales of officers of nationalised banks and has recommended a standardised pay scale structure, based broadly on identifiable levels of responsibility in the officers' cadre It has also suggested certain guidelines for evaluation of the various positions of officers in a bank on the basis of types of responsibilities and functions exercised and categorising them within any one of the recommended grades. The Committee has also recommended standardisation in respect of dearness allowance and all other allowances like travelling allowance, house rent allowance, city compensatory allowance, etc. and perquisites enjoyed by the bank officers Regarding inter-bank transferability of officers, the Committee, after laying down certain principles that may be followed in this regard, has come to the view that interchangeability at the top level of management might be desirable.

The recommendations made by the Committee are under examination of the Government.

Loan given by LIC to Bihar State for its Development Works

778. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan given by LIC to the State of Bihar for its development works in comparison to the other States during the years 1972 and 1973;

(b) whether the State Government of Bihar has requested the LIC for additional loans to tide over the present economic difficulties;

(c) if so, the amount of loan asked for; and

(d) the reaction of the LIC thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) During the financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 loans amounting to Rs 200.00 lakhs and Rs. 570.00 lakhs (provisional) were disbursed in Bihar State. These amounts however, do not include mortgage loans for residential and commercial housing released to individual and Corporate bodies. Two statements of State-wise loans disbursed by LIC during the financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 are laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See* No. LT-8060/74].

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Revision in Rates of H.R.A. and C.C.A. payable to Central Government Employees

779. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the rates of house rent and city compensatory allowance payable to Central Government employees with effect from 1st November, 1973;

(b) whether a copy of the orders will be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) whether leaders of Central Government Employees' Union have appealed to give effect to those allowances from 1st January, 1973 as recommended by the Third Pay Commission; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The orders are in the form of an Office Memorandum. It is not the normal practice to lay such Office Memorandum on the Table of the House.

(c) The Third Pay Commission have not recommended giving effect to the revised orders on city compensatory and house rent allowances from 1st January, 1973 There have, however, been representations from the Staff Side for making them effective from that date.

(d) Government have not found it possible to agree to this demand.

Production of Security Paper

780. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of the security paper is not sufficient to meet the demand for printing currency notes in the country;

(b) if so, the amount spent on import of the security paper during 1973-74; and

(c) steps being taken to improve the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders for import of currency Note paper for denominations of Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 10, were placed in 1973-74 at a total cost of about Rs. 240 lakhs including foreign exchange cost of Rs. 154 lakhs.

(c) Of late, there has been improvement in the labour situation in the Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad, and it may be possible to reach the targeted production in 1974-75. In order to meet full printing requirements of India Security Press, Nasik Road and the newly set up Bank Note Press, Dewas, Government propose to set up a new Security Paper Mill for manufacture of currency and bank note paper, the Project Report of which is now under preparation.

Payment of O.T.A. in Banks

781. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are paying a huge sum of overtime wages in banks;

(b) whether Government propose to stop the payment of overtime so that unemployed educated youth might be absorbed in banks; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). Payment of overtime for work done beyond the normal hours of work to workmen employees in the banks is regulated by bilateral settlements between the managements of banks and employees organisations and these are subject to the provisions of Shops and Commercial Establishments Acts of the various State Gov-

ernments. The amount of overtime payment made by public sector banks during the years 1972 and 1973, as furnished by them, is shown in the enclosed statement.

The banks have generally reported that while it is not possible to eliminate completely the grant of overtime payment to the employees, all efforts are made by them to restrict overtime work by adopting various measures including tightening of supervision, fixing of ceilings on overtime per office as well as per individual employee, a more effective deployment of manpower, and having a dialogue with the union leaders, etc.

STATEMENT

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	1972	1973 (Provisional
1	Central Bank of India	94·50	108·00
2	Bank of India	83 82	104·62
3	Punjab National Bank	103 66	127·31
4	Bank of Baroda	88 69	104·16
5	United Comercial Bank	63·05	77·28
6	Cenara Bank	36·98	47.83
7	United Bank of India	48 88	46 96
8	Dena Bank	35 99	45·00
9	Syndicate Bank	12·40	16·79
10	Union Bank of India	40 99	46·57
11	Allahabad Bank	35·90	40·00
12	Indian Bank	22·73	25·30
13	Bank of Maharashtra	19·08	24·85
14	Indian Overseas Bank	24·69	31 09
15	State Bank of India	410·63	450·35
16	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	32·70	38·81
17	State Bank of Hyderabad	36·90	55 71
18	State Bank of Indore	13·20	16·00
19	State Bank of Mysore	11·63	16.09
20	State Bank of Patiala	14.48	19.08
21	State Bank of Saurashtra	16·21	20·66
22	State Bank of Travancore	11·02	13·85

D A granted by the Central Government to its Employees during the last Fourteen Months

782 SHRI S N MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of instalments of D A granted by the Central Government to its employees during the last fourteen months, and

(b) the extra expenditure involved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) and (b) Five instalments of dearness allowance have been granted so far They were effective from 1st May 1973, 1st August, 1973, 1st October 1973, 1st January 1974 and 1st February 1974 Each instalment was estimated to cost the Government an additional Rs 50 Crores approximately in a full year

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Himachal Pradesh

783 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of the branches of the nationalised banks which have been sanctioned for the year 1974-75 in Himachal Pradesh, and

(b) the names of the places at which these branches will be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) and (b) As on the 30th June, 1974 the public sector banks held licences/ allotments for opening 25 new offices in Himachal Pradesh at the following centres:—

Name of the District	*Centre*
Chamba	Pangi (Kila) Udepur
Kangra	Melodganj Bersar Ranital Bannkhandi Nogrot Sunan
Kulu	Naggar Jari Chowai Kulu Katrain Manali
Mandi	Pahari Aur Drang Dhrampur Mandi(2 offices)
Solan	Solan Nalgarh
Lahauland Spiti	Kaza
Sirmur	Rajban
Simla	Simla (East)
Una	Una

Purchasing Power of Indian Rupee

784 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the purchasing power (value) of the Indian rupee has been decreasing ever since 1959, and

(b) if so, the value of the rupee in terms of Paise at present, with 1959 as the base year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The internal puchasing power of a currency is bound to decline in a period of rising prices and

Indian currency is no exception to this rule. Thus the purchasing power of the rupee as measured by the All-India Industrial Workers Consumer Price Index Number (Base 1949-100). shows a decline since 1959, except in 1969 when the value of the rupee increased slightly as compared to the preceding year. Assuming 1959 as base year the value of the rupee in May, 1974 works out at 33.9 paise.

Shifting of Office of Controller of Insurance from Simla to Delhi

785. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift the Office of the Controller of Insurance from Simla to Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons which have led to this proposal:

(c) whether any representation has been received from the employees of the Office of the Controller of Insurance; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government on the representation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). With the nationalisation of all insurance business, both life and general, the regulatory functions of the Controller have dwindled to a great extent. At the same time, Government's responsibility in this regard has increased necessitating fuller exercise of its discretionary powers by proper directional control over the nationalised Insurance Corporations Against this background, it has been decided to gradually wind up the office of the Controller of Insurance and to strengthen the Department of Revenue & Insurance by taking on the technical officers in the Insurance Wing to enable proper discharge of these directional functions of the Government. This Department will also be discharging the functions of actuarial advice to the Central and State Governments and other functions which the Controller of Insurance was earlier performing.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Every effort is being made to ensure that minimum dislocation is caused to the employees and that those among them who do not wish to move to New Delhi, are absorbed, as far as possible, in other offices at or near Simla.

Share-holders of Ex-servicemen Air-link Transport Services Private Limited

786. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) who are the shareholders of Ex-servicemen Air-Link Transport Services Private Limited;

(b) whether any advertisement was given in the Press for such a contract at Delhi; and

(c) what are the earnings of Cambata per month at Bombay?

THF MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) At present all the equity shares are held by ex-servicemen and their dependents.

(b) The International Airports Authority of India awarded the contract to M/s. Ex-Servicemen Air-Link Transport Services (Pvt.) Ltd., without call of tenders as they were sponsored by the Director General of Resettlement, Ministry of Defence, with the sole purpose of providing employment to ex-servicemen. There were two other parties who came forward

with their offers but the terms offered by the above mentioned firm were the most favourable.

(c) The International Airports Authority of India do not have the figures of earnings of M/s. Cambatas from porterage services at Bombay

Mango Export

787 SHRI G Y KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which are importing Mangoes,

(b) whether the demand for Indian Mangoes is increasing,

(c) if so the amount of foreign exchange earned yearly during last three years, and

(d) the incentives extended by Government for production of more Mangoes in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) Behrein Island, Dubai, France, Malaysia, Muscat, Nepal, Qatar German Fed Rep, Singapore, U K, Kuwait, S Yemen, Saudi Arabia and others

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Years	FMR value (Rs lakh)
1971-72	26 08
1972-73	50 01
1973-74 upto Jan 74)	51 25

(d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Package Programme on mango during 5th Plan has been approved. This has an outlay of about 75 lacs for programmes in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Shortage of Small Coins

788. SHRI G Y. KRISHNAN:
SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is acute shortage of small coins in the rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard, and

(c) the progress made regarding the production of coins of all denominations by the three mints at Alipore (Calcutta), Bombay and Hyderabad during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH): (a) No reports of shortage of small coins in the rural areas in the country have been received in recent months

(b) Does not arise

(c) The production of small coins during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 is as under —

Denomination	No of pieces (000's omitted) 1972-73	1973-74
50-Paise	14,16,16	15,33,70
25-Paise	38,72,82	43,08,88
10-Paise	76,08,00	80,94,62
5-Paise	48,22,80	47,44,50
3-Paise	18,85	..
2-Paise	26,12,10	23,26,60
1-Paisa	4,91,40	..

Value of Rupee

789. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the value of rupee is steadily falling since 1960;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what was the value of rupee at the end of each year since 1960; and

(c) at what point the value of rupees stood every month in 1973 and 1974?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The value of the rupee as measured by the annual average of the All-India Industrial Workers' Consummer Price Index (base 1949=100) has fallen since 1960 excepting in 1969 when it increased slightly compared to the preceding year

(b) The fall in the value of the rupee reflects the rise in the consumer price index The desired calculations for the end of each year (December) since 1960 in terms of the All-India Industrial workers' consumer Price Index (base 1949=100) are as follows:

	Value of rupee (In 1949 Paise)
December 1960	80 6
December 1961	78 1
December 1962	75·2
December 1963	71·4
December 1964	61·0
December 1965	57·8
December 1966	50 8
December 1967	46 7
December 1968	48·1
December 1969	46·5
December 1970	44·2
December 1971	42·2
December 1972	39·2
December 1973	31·6

(c) The monthly calculations as desired are as follows :

Months	Value of Rupee (In 1949 paise) 1973	1974
January	39 2	31·2
February	38 6	30 8
March	38·0	29.9
April	37 2	29 1
May	36·1	28.0
June	35·3	
July	33 9	
August	33 3	
September	33·2	
October	32.4	
November	31·7	
December	31·6	

Decision on construction of an Airport at Mayithura

790. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on constructing an airport at Mayithura, Veli, between Alleppy and Cochin, based on a report submitted by the Civil aviation officials who visited the spot;

(b) if not, the reansons for the delay;

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken; and

(d) what are the main points of the officials report?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (d). The survey reports on various sites including Mayithura Veli for possible construction of a civil aerodrome near Cochin are still under evaluation by the Civil Aviation Department in consultation with Indian Airlines. A decision is likely to be reached soon. The survey reports mainly deal with the physical characteristics of the sites, availability of facilities etc.

Loan given by Nationalised Banks and other Financial Institutions to large industrial houses

791. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pelased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks and other public financial institutions have given credit to various companies and organisations like limited companies partnership firms and family trusts owned and controlled by the large industrial houses during 1973-74.

(b) if so, the amount each of these organisations and banks have given to each of the companies or the firms during 1973-74; and

(c) the amount outstanding from each of these companies on the 31st March, 1974?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). In accordance with the law practice and usages customary among bankers and as per the provisions of Section 13 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, it is not possible for nationalised banks to divulge information regarding its constituents. However according to the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India the nationalised banks' aggregate outstanding advances to large industrial houses, as on last Friday of June 1973 was Rs. 568.79 crores.

Information relating to direct financial assistance sanctioned by the Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India to industrial concerns belonging to large industrial houses during 1973-74 and the amount outstanding as on 31st March 1974 against these concerns is furnished in statements I, II and III respectively laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8061/74]. Similar information in respect of Life Insurance Corporation of India and Unit Trust of India is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House to the extent and in the manner available with them.

Increase in audit observations regarding Financial transactions of various Ministries

792. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of audit observations has steeply increased since 1970 regarding financial transactions of various Ministries;

(b) if so, the figures thereof year-wise and Ministry-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not squaring them up for so many years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Total value of goods exported to E.E.C. countries last year

793. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special drive is going to be launched to increase the exports to E.E.C. Countries in the

current year and if so, the salient features thereof; and

(b) whether negotiations have been carried out for getting special concessions and the result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Steps taken to increase trade with E.E.C. countries *inter alia*, include our efforts to secure elimination/reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, Commercial Development Programmes, exchange of trade delegations, Joint Commission meetings, etc. As a result of our efforts several concessions have been secured in the past from the Community *e.g.*, substantial tariff reductions obtained under the Jute and Coir Agreement, tariff suspensions in regard to a number of items of export interest to India, signing of Commercial Cooperation Agreement, further liberalisation of G S P Scheme etc.

Overseas market surveys undertaken under the U.N.D.P.

794. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the broad outlines of overseas market surveys undertaken under the United Nations Development programme and the prospects of increasing India's exports on the basis of these surveys?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): No overseas market surveys have so far been undertaken by this Ministry with United Nations Development Programme assistance. However, a project document relating to Research and Surveys, for Export Development was signed between the Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme in June, 1974 for undertaking three overseas market surveys during the period August, 1974 to April 1975.

Unadjusted amount of annual premium deposited by policy-holders during 1972-73

795. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether part of the annual premium deposited by policy-holders during 1972-73 is lying unadjusted with the Life Insurance Corporation;

(b) if so, the percentage of the unadjusted amount in 1972-73;

(c) how does it compare with the corresponding percentages during 1970-71 and 1971-72; and

(d) the reasons for these recurring unadjusted amounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c). The amount of deposits that remained unadjusted at the end of 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73 and its percentage to the total annual premium income were as under:

UNADJUSTED PREMIUM DEPOSIT

Year	Amount (Rs. in Crores)	Percentage to total annual premium income
1970-71 . .	33 17	11·51
1971-72	34 05	10·25
1972-73	36·58	9 60

(d) The reasons for premiums remaining unadjused include.

(i) Premiums not received in full.

(ii) Amounts received after the expiry of the days of grace without payment of late fee, etc.

(iii) amounts received with incorrect policy numbers or without policy numbers.

Tourist Hotels in Delhi

796. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state how many tourist hotels are at present in Delhi and how many new tourist hotels have been opened in Delhi during the years 1973 and 1974?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): At present, there are 25 hotels approved by the Department of Tourism in Delhi. Three hotels were added during 1973 and 1974.

Supply of Yarn to West Bengal Weavers

797. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal weavers are not supplied with yarn at par with their demands;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what was their total demand for yarn during 1973-74 and upto July, 1974?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Statutory control over prices and distribution of cotton yarn was endorsed in March 1973. Demands for supplies under the control scheme received from various States were far in excess of the production. Besides, various mills obtained stay orders from courts against release orders issued by the Textile Commissioner. Allotments/supplies of cotton yarn to different States could not accordingly be made during 1973-74 as per their demand. It may also be added that prices and distribution control over cotton yarn was gradually relaxed from July, 1973, onwards and un-controlled varieties had to be purchased by weavers from the open market.

Price and distribution control over cotton yarn were lifted completely by March, 1974. Only nominees of State Governments, Apex Co-operative Societies and State Handloom/Powerloom Corporations are now assisted to lift their requirements direct from Mills. In turn, these organizations are expected to meet the demands of weavers to the best-possible exent.

The West Bengal Government had indicated their requirements during 1973-74 at 15.24 lakh kgs. of hank yarn and 22.14 lakh kgs. of cone yarn per month. During 1974-75, they have revised their requirements to 39.18 lakh kgs. of hank yarn and 84.37 kgs. of cone yarn per month.

Appointment of a Committee to Suggest Economies in Government Expenditure

798. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a Committee to suggest economies in Government expenditure and to draw up a schedule of priorities for items of expenditure; and

(b if so ,the salient features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). In order to locate possible economies in Government expenditure in the context of the highly inflationary situation prevailing in the country, two Teams of Secretaries have been set up to review respectively the Plan and non-Plan budgets of the Ministries and to report to Government. The work of the Teams is nearing completion.

Import of raw cotton from Soviet Union

799. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import raw cotton from Soviet Union during 1974-75; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir. However, the possibilities are being explored.

(b) Does not arise.

Steps to check inflation

800. RAJA KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what were the measures, fiscal monetary and others, which were taken by Government to control inflationary trends and rising prices of essential commodities during the years 1972, 1973 and 1974; and

(b) why these measures have failed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Several factors such as fall in agricultural production during 1971-72 and 1972-73, near stagnation in industrial production during 1973, a steep rise in import prices of major goods like petroleum and petroleum products, fertilisers and metals, hoarding and speculative tendencies have aggravated the price situation. But for the measures adopted (as per enclosed statement) the price rise might have been steeper.

Statement

The principal monetary measures taken since 1972 have been as follows:—

(a) The Bank Rate was raised from 6 per cent to 7 per cent with effect from May 31, 1973 and to 9 per cent with effect from 23rd July, 1974.

(b) The statutory cash reserve ratio was raised thrice in 1973—from 3 per cent to 5 per cent with effect from June 29, 1973; from 5 per cent to 6 per cent with effect from September 8, 1973; and from 6 per cent to 7 per cent with effect from September 22, 1973. This ratio has, however, been reduced from 7 per cent to 5 per cent with effect from June 29, 1974.

(c) The statutory liquidity ratio was raised four times between 1972 and 1974 (so far)—from 28 per cent to 29 per cent with effect from first Friday of August 1972; from 29 per cent to 30 per cent with effect from November 17, 1972; from 30 per cent to 32 per cent with effect from December 8, 1973; and from 32 per cent to 33 per cent with effect from June 29, 1974.

(d) The net liquidity ratio was stepped up from 34 per cent to 40 per cent in four stages between 1972 and 1974 (so far)—from 34 per cent to 36 per cent with effect from November 17, 1972; from 36 per cent to 37 per cent with effect from March 30, 1973; from 37 per cent to 39 per cent with effect from *June* 29, 1973; and from 39 per cent to 40 per cent with effect from September 8, 1973.

(e) The minimum lending rate (except for exempted categories) of scheduled commercial

banks was fixed at 10 per cent w.e.f. 1st June 1973. The rate was raised from 10 per cent to 11 per cent from December 1, 1973. It has been further raised from 11 per cent to 12.5 per cent w.e.f. 23rd July, 1974.

(f) In order to discourage hoarding and speculative activities, the minimum lending rate on bank advances against commodities covered by selective credit control has been raised by 2 per cent from 13 per cent to 15 per cent or from 12 per cent to 14 per cent as may be applicable to various categories w.e.f. 23rd July, 1974.

(g) With effect from April 1, 1974, the rate of interest on savings account was raised from 4 per cent to 5 per cent, and for other categories of deposits, the increase ranged from 0.25 to 1.00 percentage points. Corresponding increases were also applicable on post office saving, time and recurring deposits as also on saving certificates, and public provident fund balances. The deposit rates on the time deposit have been further raised with effect from 23rd July depending upon their maturity period, the maximum rate being 10 per cent on deposits of more than 5 years duration.

2. The accent of Government's fiscal policy in recent years has been towards raising resources both for developmental and non-developmental expenditures, in a non-inflationary manner through increased taxation effort, larger market borrowings, increase in small saving collections, etc. Simultaneously, steps were taken to effect economies in Government expenditure with a view to contain the level of deficit financing. The specific areas where non-Plan expenditures have been curtailed are economies in contigencies and travelling allowances; stopping of the construction of non-functional buildings which have not proceeded beyond plinth level; ban on creation of new posts and non-filling of posts which had remained unfilled for more than six months; deferring of rotational transfer of officers; savings in petrol consumption of departmental vehicles; savings on phone calls; economies in expenditure on entertainments and foreign travel; curtailment of house building advances to Government employees; economies in expenditure involved in holding conferences etc.; keeping to a minimum invitations for holding international gatherings; and asking various Ministries/Departments to direct the public undertakings under their control to minimise their cash losses by generating more internal resources through efficient functioning so that the budgetary provision on this account could be curtailed.

3. An important step taken in 1972 related to the stopping of the overdraft facility from the R.B.I. to the States. Beginning May 1972, no State is permitted to run an overdraft with the Reserve Bank except for a purely temporary period of seven working days. In a major move to contain deficit financing, the Government took a decision in August, 1973 to curtail its expenditure (both Plan and non-Plan) by Rs. 400 crores in 1973-74, but at the same time, enough care was taken to see that the core projects and the projects which are in an advanced stage of completion were not affected by paucity of funds. Further, the 1974-75 budget limits the level of deficit financing to only Rs. 125 crores, and every effort is being made to adhere to this limit.

4. Recently, the Government have taken a number of steps to mop up the excess liquidity in the system. These are (i) immobilisation of the increases in wages and salaries for one year, and half of the increase in Dearness Allowance for two years

payable after 6th July, 1974, (ii) restriction on the distribution of dividends by companies and (iii) compulsory deposits by all income-tax payers who are individuals, Hindu undivided families or trustees of private discretionary trusts, and whose aggregate non-agricultural income and agricultural income, if any, exceeds Rs. 15,000 in a year. The proceeds from such compulsory deposits will also be immobilised, and will not accrue to the Government as a budgetary resource.

5. Apart from these fiscal and monetary measures, other steps were also taken to check the rise in prices. Administrative controls were imposed to contain the rise in the prices of essential commodities, and to secure their proper distribution, particularly to vulnerable and weaker sections of the population. Wherever possible, dual price policy, as in the case of sugar, was adopted. For evolving an efficient system of distribution, a Committee was appointed by the Planning Commission. This Committee has since submitted its Report which is under examination by the Government. Measures were also taken to secure increases in production both of agricultural and industrial commodities, and as far as possible to secure imported supplies to augment domestic availabilities. In June, 1974 an Ordinance was promulgated with a view to ensuring more effective enforcement of the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act so as to deal with hoarding and profiteering in respect of main articles of mass consumption, viz., foodstuffs, edible oils and oilseeds, drugs, cotton and woollen textiles.

Workers idle in Indian Airlines

801. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines is losing Rs. five lakhs every day;

(b) whether five to six thousand workers are idle in Indian Airlines due to over staffing;

(c) if so, the reasons for loss; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to check further losses and to utilise the surplus labour force and staff?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (c). Indian Airlines have estimated that due to the very steep rise in the prices of aviation turbine fuel, they will incure a loss of Rs. 16.5 crores during 1974-75. This would mean a loss of approximately Rs. 4.52 lakhs per day.

(b) With the introduction of several measures for eliminating wasteful work practices, the sanctioned strength has been considered adequate in some departments while surpluses have been located in some others. The extent of such surpluses is being assessed by a high powered committee called the 'Organisation and Systems Group'. The surplus staff will be absorbed against the future expansion programme.

(d) Indian Airlines have phased out their Viscounts and Dakotas, the operational costs of which were prohibitive. They have discontinued services to a number of stations and reduced frequencies to some others. Measures have also been taken to economise in expenditure wherever possible. Certain other measures to meet or overcome the losses are also being devised.

Functioning of Finance Corporations in the Country

802. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nowadays a large number of

Finance Corporations have sprung up in the country which borrow substantial sums from the public and lend it to trade at very high rates of interest for being used for hoarding and cornering of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check this?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Control over the deposit-acceptance activities of limited companies is enforced by the Reserve Bank through a set of directions issued by it under Chapter IIIB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Banking Commission had, on a review of the activities of "Finance Companies/Corporations", made certain recommendations for a restructuring of the existing scheme of control over these Companies. On considering these recommendations, Government have decided in principle that statutory powers may be taken to prohibit acceptance of deposits by all unincorporated non-banking institutions and that the existing statutes and directions thereunder may be tightened. With a view to examining this matter in depth and to make specific recommendations for further action, the Reserve Bank of India has since constituted a Study Group whose deliberations are in progress.

Decline in Textile Export

803. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile export has suffered a sharp decline during the last few months; and

(b) if so, the main features and reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) While there has been a decline in the rate of shipments of cotton textiles since April, 1974, *vis-a-vis* shipments in the preceding quarter, the exports of cotton textiles during the period January—June, 1974, have been of the order of Rs. 118.96 crores, as against Rs. 78.79 crores during the same period in 1973.

(b) The gap between the international and domestic prices of cotton textiles arising mainly from higher cotton prices in India, which makes our products uncompetitive, the reduced buying due to heavy stocks and due to anti-inflationary measures taken by various countries have adversely affected our cotton textile exports during the recent months.

राज्यों द्वारा ओवर ड्राफ्ट

804. **श्री पुरुषोत्तम काकोडकर :**
श्री हुक्म चन्द कछवाय :

क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया द्वारा विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों को राज्यवार ओवरड्राफ्ट की कितनी धनराशि दी गई है ;

(ख) राज्य सरकारों को ओवरड्राफ्ट की राशि दिये जाने की न्यूनतम और अधिकतम सीमा क्या है , और

(ग) अधिकतम सीमा से अधिक ओवर ड्राफ्ट न दिये जाने के संबंध में सरकार की भावी योजना और नीति क्या है ?

वित्त संराज्यमंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) 20 जुलाई, 1974 की स्थिति के अनुसार रिजर्व बैंक से केवल बिहार सरकार ने 36.89 करोड़ रुपये का ओवर ड्राफ्ट लिया हुआ था ।

(ख) और (ग) योजना आयोग और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की सलाह से तैयार की गयी प्रक्रिया के अनुसार, जो पहली मई, 1972 से लागू है, किसी राज्य को बजट सम्बन्धी साधन के रूप में ओवरड्राफ्ट इस्तेमाल करने की अनुमति नहीं है । इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की नीति में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है ।

Non-payment of Income-tax by Plastic Factories functioning in South Delhi

805. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that nearly 1000 plastic factories have been running in South Delhi during the last five years. and

(b) whether these plastic factory owners do not pay any sales tax and income-tax to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). Eleven plastic industrial units. located in South Delhi are being assessed to income-tax. There are also quite a few persons owning one or two small machines who work on casual job basis and who do not appear to have income liable to income-tax.

As regards sales tax, presently, proceedings against two plastic manufacturers in South Delhi are pending in Sales Tax Department of Delhi Administration. No other instance of non-payment of sales tax has come to notice. That Department is also conducting enquiries and if any dealer is found, who has not got himself registered, he will be dealt with according to law.

Success achieved in eliminating wasteful practices in Indian Airlines

806. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines last year made any attempts to eliminate and curtail wasteful labour practices in the Corporation; and

(b) if so, to what extent Government have succeeded in accomplishing its objective with comparative figures thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the salient features of the improvements which have resulted from elimination of wasteful work practices are:—

(i) There has been a noticeable improvement in the standard of discipline and attendance,

(ii) The expenditure on overtime for 1973-74 has been brought down from Rs. 382 lakhs (budgetted) to Rs. 264 lakhs. In 1974-75, this expenditure is likely to be of the order of Rs. 30 lakhs.

(iii) The on-time performance has improved from 45.16 per cent for the calendar year 1973 to 64.77 per cent for the first five months of 1974.

(iv) The number of night stops in the case of flying crew has been brought down from 35 per day system wise before the lock-out to 12 day after 18th March, 1974 when a new schedule was brought into force, and

(v) The existing standard strength has been considered adequate in many departments and surpluses located in others. The extent of surpluses is being assessed.

Trade Pact between India and Senegal

807 SHRI B S. BHAURA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Senegal signed five year trade pact during the recent visit of Senegal President to India; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the main items of trade agreed upon between the two countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) and (b). A trade agreement between India and Senegal was signed on 22nd May, 1974 The agreement has to be approved by the respective Governments before it is made public and comes into force.

दिल्ली में एक ट्रक से चांदी की सिल्लियों का बरामद किया जाना

808. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :**

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :

श्री मल० चन्द डागा :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मई 1974 के दूसरे पक्ष मे दिल्ली मे एक ट्रक से बडी मात्रा मे चादी की सिल्लिया बरामद की गई थी, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो बरामद की गई चादी का भारतीय मुद्रा मे मूल्य कितना है तथा इस सबध मे कितने व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) दिल्ली सीमा-शुल्क प्राधिकारियो ने 26 मई 1974 को दिल्ली मे फिल्मिस्तान सिनेमा के निकट पकडे गए एक ट्रक मे से चादी की 150 सिल्लियां पकडी जिनका वजन लगभग 4,500 किलोग्राम है। यह ट्रक भी, जो लगभग एक लाख रु० का है पकड लिया गया।

(ख) पकडी गयी चादी भारतीय मुद्रा मे मूल्य अनुमानत 54 लाख रु० था। अब तक चार व्यक्ति हिरासत मे लिए गए जो बाद मे मजिस्ट्रेट द्वारा जमानत पर छोड दिए गए। आगे जाच-पडताल जारी है।

मंत्रालयों को उनके द्वारा की गयी सेवाओ के संबंध में हुई हानि

809. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या उनके मत्रालय ने सभी केन्द्रीय मत्रालयो और विभागो को उनके द्वारा की गयी विभिन्न सेवाओ के सबध मे उनसे हुई हानि को कम करने की सम्भावनाओ का विस्तृत अध्ययन करने के पश्चात् जून, 1974 के अन्तिम सप्ताह तक एक रिपोर्ट देने के लिए कहा है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश): अर्थव्यवस्था पर हावी अत्यधिक मुद्रा-बाहुल्य की स्थिति के सदर्भ मे सरकारी खर्च मे अधिक से अधिक किफायत करने के लिए वित्त मत्रालय ने भारत सरकार के सभी-मत्रालयो/विभागो मे सरकारी सहायता के सभी मामलो की तत्काल समीक्षा शुरू करने का अनुरोध किया है जिनमे नकद हानियो के कारण दिये जाने वाले अनुदान/ऋण, सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमो की देनदारियो की वापसी और ब्याज की अदायगी शामिल है। इस प्रयोग का उद्देश्य यह जानकारी प्राप्त करना है कि ऐसी सरकारी सहायता किस सीमा तक समाप्त की जा सकती है या कम से

कम की जा सकती है । इस समीक्षा के सम्बंध में की जाने वाली कार्रवाई में तेजी लायी जा रही है ।

Export of Key Items

810. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of OMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether plan to export key items has gone wrong;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken to ensure that the plan goes according to the schedule?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). No, Sir, on the other hand during 1973-74 most of our principal items of exports overshot the targets fixed for them While no corrective steps as such are necessary, it is the policy of the Government to promote exports of all items for which potential exists and surpluses can be generated without undue restrain of domestic demand.

Demand of Bonus by Rubber Board Employees

811. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rubber Board employees are demanding bonus; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The employees of the Rubber Board are not entitled to get bonus under the Payment of Bonus Act.

Financial Assistance to Kerala

812. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government has represented to the Central Government for the continuance of financial assistance which was given during the year 1973-74 for relief works in scarcity affected areas in that State; and

(b) if so, the quantum of help so far given by Government to the State of Kerala and the relief work done in the tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The Kerala State Government have not represented to the Central Government for the continuance of the financial assistance given for relief works in 1973-74.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Development of Tourist spots in Kerala

813. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the total amount sanctioned and spent during the Fourth Five Year Plan period for development of tourist spots in Kerala, schemewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): An expenditure of Rs. 145.83 lakhs was incurred in the Central Sector on tourism schemes in Kerala during the Fourth Five Year

Plan The scheme-wise expenditure is given below —

Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned	Expenditure incurred
	(Rs in lakhs)	
Department of Tourism		
1 Yourh Hostel at Trivandrum	2 85	0 94
2 Development of Kovalam	31 81	31 81
I T D C		
3 Kovalam Hotal (4-star)	115 00	73 77
4 Kovalam Grove (Cottages)	20 00	39 31
	169 66	145 83

Funds Earmarked by L I C for investment in backward areas

814 SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has earmarked some funds for investment in backward areas,

(b) if so, the amounts it has invested in the backward areas of Kerala during 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74, and

(c) what amount does it propose to invest in these areas during 1974-75 and on which specific projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) No Sir The bulk of L I C's investments in the states are made through the medium of various State level agencies which alone can decide as to how much of the funds made available by the L I C should be spent in the backward areas of a State

(b) and (c) The L I C has invested the following amounts in Kerala during 1971-72 1972-73 and 1973-74 —

In lakhs of rupees

1971-72	1197
1972-73	1325
1973-74	1341*
1974-75	Not Yet available

*Figure is subject to audit.

काफी का निर्यात

815. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1974–75 के दौरान काफी के निर्यात के लिए कोई योजना बनाई है और

(ख) यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा उससे कितने मूल्य की विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित होगी ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) (क) जी हां ।

(ख) वित्तीय वर्ष 1974–75 के दौरान काफी का प्राक्कलित निर्यात 55,500 मे० टन होगा जिसका मूल्य 48 00 करोड रुपये होगा, तथापि यह तथ्य मूल्य प्राप्ति पर आधारित होंगे ।

Suggestion made by Economists regarding reduction in money supply

816. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINJIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some economists have suggested to Government that the money supply be reduced by 25 per cent or so by freezing deposits and exchanging high denomination notes for bonds;

(b) whether Government have considered this proposal to reduce inflation; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) While the Government have taken and will continue to take measures to curtail money supply consistent with growth in production, the methods suggested by the Economists for the immobilisation of money supply contained in "Supplement to the Economists' Memorandum entitled SEMI-BOMBLA—June, 1974", published by Vora & Co., Bombay-2, are not favoured by the Government.

Ceiling on Gold

817. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10 Tolas of Gold ceiling per couple and 5 Tolas for daughter as suggested by the Planning Commission would bring social reform and would meet the serious economic situation in the country;

(b) the value in rupees of gold likely to be collected by Government through this process;

(c) whether the entire gold smuggled into the country estimated at Rs. 7,000 crores would come out; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take so that the gold already smuggled into India does not get smuggled out, before any law come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d). The suggestion made by the Minister of State for Planning for imposing a gold ceiling of 10 tolas per family and 5 tolas per daughter is under consideration. The amount and value of gold that may become available through this process would depend to a large extent on how the surplus of individual holdings is collected.

Assistance from world bank for development of chambal Project

818. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had sought assistance from the World Bank for the development of the Chambal Project; and

(b) if so, the amount of assistance sought and the reaction of the World Bank thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An Agreement for a loan of about Rs. 39 crores (US $ 52 million) for the Chambal Command Area Development Project was signed between India and IBRD on 19th June, 1974. The loan amount will be utilised for the improvement and completion of existing irrigation facilities, road development, afforestation and erosion control, procurement of fertilisers, provision of measures for aquatic weed control, training of

staff in on-farm development and carrying out of studies of hydrology, reservoir systems operations, consumptive use drainage design and construction methods for on-farm development in the command area of the Chambal Irrigation Project of the State of Rajasthan The loan carries interest at the rate of 7 25 per cent per annum and is repayable in 30 years including a grace period of 7 years

Proposal to construct hotel near Palam (Delhi)

819 SHRI RAM KANWAR Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to construct another hotel in the public sector in the Union Territory of Delhi near Palam,

(b) whether the details of the proposed project have been finalised and if so the main features thereof, and

(c) when the work is likely to start and what is the total investment involved in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR SAROJINI MAHISHI) (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Assistance from International Monetary Fund

820 SHRI H M PATEL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India has approached the International Monetary Fund for additional help to come over the situation created by the increase in prices of imported crude from the Arab countries

(b) if so, the extent of additional assistance sought by Government from the International Monetary Fund and

(c) whether the International Monetary Fund has agreed to the request of the Government of India, if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) to (c) India has drawn in May 1974 amounts in various currencies equivalent to SDR 235 million (*Rs 221 40 crores*) from the International Monetary Fund This drawing has been made in the context of the situation created by the rise in prices of oil and other materials and equipment

Vast scope for Indian woollen knit wear in West European countries

821 SHRI K MALLANNA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether West European countries have vast scope for Indian Woollen knitwear and the market of these products is so extensive and full of potential that the exports can be pushed up

(b) whether Government have made any assessment in this regard and

(c) if so the salient features regarding the suggestions for modernisation of the woollen knitwear industry which have been accepted by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) There is considerable scope for Indian woollen knitwear in West European markets considering present meagre exports However this market is sophisticated and very fashion conscious and the present pattern of production is not yet oriented in that direction

(b) and (c) Suggestions for modernisation of woollen knitwear export units are under consideration of the Government

Tea export drive

822 **SHRI C K JAFFAR SHARIEF** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tea export drive has been launched by Government,

(b) whether any delegation has als been sent abroad in this regard, and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof and the progress made in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) to (c) In order to promote tea exports Government have taken the following teps —

(i) Abolition of export duty on tea with effect from 1st March, 1970

(ii) Re-ate of excise duty at the point of export varying with price with effect from 15th April 1970

(iii) Promotional activities by the Tea Board's offices established in London New York, Cairo, Brussels and Sydney to create greater possibility for export of Indian tea to various traditional and new markets

(iv) Promotion of special packs of Indian tea in selected markets abroad with the cooperation of the local blenders/packers

(v) Advertisement through appropriate media of publicity in countries abroad

(vi) Participation in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions

(vii) Exchange visits of traders and experts to promote the interest of tea

(viii) Setting up of a tea Trading Corporation in Public Sector for export of packeted and blended teas

(ix) Participation in Generic Promotion along with other tea producing countries and local tea trade in importing countries to increase consumption of tea as a beverage *vis-a-vis* other soft drinks

2 A three member delegation visited in March-April 1974 North African countries *viz* Algeria, Tunisia and Libya to assess the nature of demand for Indian tea In Morocco and Algeria the demand is mainly for green tea Tunisia and Libya are primarily markets for black tea Follow up action has been taken in co-operation with tea producers and export trade including Tea Trading Corporation of India

भारतीय पटसन निगम द्वारा बिहार में पटसन की खरीद

823. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या बिहार मे भारतीय पटसन निगम की फारबीस गंज शाखा ने पटसन की खरीद के मामले मे पटसन उत्पादको के साथ धाधली मचा रखी थी ,

(ख) क्या उक्त निगम के अधिकारियो ने सीधे किसानो से पटसन न खरीद कर बडे-बडे व्यापारियो से पटसन खरीदी थी और तेसा बिहार के प्रत्येक केन्द्र मे हुआ था , और

(ग) यदि हा तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ।

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय मे उप मंत्री (**श्री ए० सी० जार्ज**) (क) भारतीय पटसन निगम की फारबीस गंज शाखा द्वारा धाधली की कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नही हुई है ।

(ख) तथा (ग) भारतीय पत्तन निगम के अनुदेशों के अनुसार विभागीय क्रय केन्द्रों को पटसन की खरीद केवल उपजकर्ताओं से करनी होती है और उनसे न मिलने पर छोटे किसानों से व्यापारियों से नहीं । फारबीस गंज तथा मुरलीगंज में व्यापारियों से खरीद के बारे में कतिपय शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई थीं जिन पर पटसन निगम समुचित कार्यवाही कर रहा है ।

Development of Sabarimala (Kerala)

824 SHRI N SREEKANTAN NAIR Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have requested for Central assistance for the development of Sabarimala which is a famous pilgrim centre in South India, and

(b) the action taken by the Central Government on the request of the Kerala Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR SAROJINI MAHISHI) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Due to constraint on resources and other priorities the development of pilgrim facilities at Sabarimala is not being taken up in the Central Sector particularly as this is primarily the responsibility of the State Government A provision of Rs 5 lakhs has been made in the Fifth Plan of the Kerala Tourist Development Corporation for the provision of accommodation and other facilities for pilgrims at Sabarimala

Directions issued to SBI to stop payment of Bills/cheques presented by State Government of Kerala

825 SHRI N SREEKANTAN NAIR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Government have issued directions to the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries to stop payment of bills/cheques presented by the State Government of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) and (b) Under the procedure which has been worked out in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Reserve Bank of India and which has come into effect from 1st May 1972 no State can have an overdraft continuously for more than seven days As the Government of Kerala was running a persistent overdraft the payments on behalf of the State Governments were stopped on 4th May 1974 under the instructions of the Reserve Bank of India but with the clearance of the overdraft the payments were resumed with effect from the 8th May 1974

Restrictions placed on various Ministries Department heads and other personnel in the use of Govt owned vehicles

826 SHRI S C SAMANTA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) what restrictions have been placed upon various Ministries Departmental heads and other personnel in the use of Government owned motor vehicles or other vehicles at Government cost since the heavy increase in the prices of motor spirit and lubricants,

(b) whether the expenditure on this account has increased and if so the increase per month; and

(c) the economy achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) Apart from a stricter enforcement of the Staff Car Rules Ministries were instructed in

August, 1973 to restrict the consumption of petrol in staff cars and other departmental vehicles which are not used for operational purposes or for field duties, to 75 per cent of the quantity consumed during 1972-73. During 1973-74, however, the consumption was to be restricted to 85 per cent as the restriction was to apply only to a part of the year. There is, however, an inherent element of uncertainty in controlling overall expenditure because of various inescapable demands, and the orders themselves envisage exclusion of special activities such as fairs, conferences, visits of foreign delegation. Also the prices of petrol and lubricants have increased substantially since the orders were issued.

(b) and (c). The comparative figures available in respect of staff cars of the various Ministries/Departments for 1972-73 and 1973-74 show that the quantitative restriction imposed in August, 1973, has, by and large, been observed. There has been an estimated saving of about 1.40 lakhs litres of petrol in 1973-74 compared to 1972-73. But for this saving, the total expenditure on petrol would have gone up in 1973-74 by about Rs. 5.51 lakhs, but as a result of the orders referred to, it has been possible to contain the increase in expenditure and limit it to Rs. 2.41 lakhs (or about Rs. 20,000 per month)

Arrears of Taxes

827. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the direction of minimising tax-evasion;

(b) what are the arrears of taxes as on the 30th June, 1974;

(c) the measures further designed to plug the loop-holes in taxation measures, laws and other factors responsible for large scale tax-evasions; and

(d) tax dues realised so far during the current year till the 30th June, 1974?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The Government has been taking a number of steps to check tax evasion. On the legislative side, several amendments to the direct tax laws have been made to plug the loop-holes and to strengthen the departmental machinery. The power to acquire under-valued immovable properties, provisions to check benami transactions and measures for strengthening the valuation machinery introduced through the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act, 1972, partial integration of agricultural income with non-agricultural income for tax purposes introduced through the Finance Act, 1973 and the proposals made through the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1973 which is before a Select Committee of Parliament are some of the important legislative measures taken by the Government in recent times in this connection. On the administrative side, searches and seizures, survey operations and prosecutions have been stepped up. The Intelligence Units attached to the Commissioner's charges are being strengthened. A Special Cell has also been set up to investigate the cases of some of the large industrial houses.

(b) The figures of arrears of income-tax (including corporation tax), wealth-tax, gift tax and estate duty as on 30-6-1974 are not readily available. However, the position as on 31-3-1974 in respect of these taxes is as under:

	Gross arrears	Net. arrears
	(Figures in Rs./crores)	
Income tax (Including Corporation Tax) .	815·70	471·45
Wealth-tax . .	29·37	18·13
Gift Tax . .	3·65	2·07
Estate Duty .	15·86	9·51

(c) The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1973 which is before a Select Committee of Parliament contains a number of provisions for plugging loop-holes in tax laws and giving additional powers to the authorities so as to make the fight against tax evasion more effective

(d) The collections during the current financial year upto 30th June, 1974 out of arrear and current demand as per reports received so far, are as under

	Rs /crores
Income-tax (including Corporation tax)	137 30
Wealth-tax	2 11
Gift tax	0 75
Estate duty	1 70

Meeting in Paris for International Monetary Reforms

828 PROF MADHU DANDAVATE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the International Finance Experts' meeting at Paris on May 9, 1974 has reached broad agreement on proposals for an interim reform of the World monetary system; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) and (b) The Deputies of the Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund on Reform of the International Monetary System and Related Issues (the Committee of Twenty) met at Paris on May 7—9, 1974, and considered a revised draft of the Outline of International Monetary Reform, so as to submit it to the Committee of Twenty for decision At its sixth and final meeting held in Washington on June 12-13 1974, the Committee of Twnty reached agreement on reform proposal the salient features of which are reflected in a Communique issued at the end of the meeting A copy of the Communique is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See* No LT-8062/74]

Steps to unearth black Money

829 SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to seal all the lockers in every bank, hotel and any such places, throughout the country belonging to every person or a company including Government servants, Members of State Legislatures, Central Legislature and Ministers to check and unearth black and un-accounted money as well as smuggled and excess gold,

(b) whether Government also propose to demonetise hundred rupee currency notes to check the black money,

(c) whether Government propose to impose stricter control on gold by Legislation, and

(d) if not the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) to (d) Sealing and search of lockers can be done only if there is reason to believe that smuggled goods excess gold or undisclosed income/assets are kept in such lockers Vigorous efforts to collect intelligence to locate such places and to search them continue to be made Government do not consider demonetisation as providing the right solution to check the black money which is held in various forms such as cash, bullion, real estate etc The amendments made to the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 by the Customs, Gold (Control) and Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Act, 1973 are, for the present, considered to have adequately strengthened the gold control law.

Distribution system of Essential Commodities

830. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what specific decisions have been taken by Government for making essential commodities in adequate quantities available to the common man at fair/controlled prices through a comprehensive distribution system; and

(b) whether price-freeze, as an effective instrument to make the contemplated wage-freeze a success, has been considered by Government and if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) The net work of public distribution system has been maintained and strengthened from time to time in recent years with a view to making essential commodities like foodgrains, controlled varieties of cloth, sugar and kerosene etc. available to the vulnerable and weaker sections of population.

(b) The Government have not contemplated either a wage-freeze or a price-freeze.

Enhancement in the Limit fixed for Exemption of House Rent Receipts

831. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the limit fixed for exemption of House Rent receipts has been enhanced to cover at least the Central Government employees drawing pay upto Rs. 1000 per month in the new pay scales; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and steps being taken to safeguard their interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). Central Government employees drawing pay up to Rs. 750 in the revised pay scales are eligible to draw house rent allowance without production of rent receipts. Employees drawing pay above Rs. 750 can draw house rent allowance if the rent actually paid by them justifies it.

Since house rent allowance is intended to compensate Central Government employees partly for the high rents that they have to pay for hired residential accommodation, the need to verify the rent paid is inherent in the Scheme. The Third Pay Commission had in fact recommended that verification of rent receipts should be made compulsory. Government have, however, decided to continue the old practice of paying house rent allowance without reference to rent receipts upto a specified pay level and for this purpose a pay limit of Rs. 750 which roughly corresponds to the old limit of Rs. 620 has been prescribed.

Loan advanced by Nationalised Banks to various categories of dealers

832 SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest figures and their State-wise break up in regard to loans paid by the nationalised banks to the (i) foodgrain dealers (ii) Vanaspati dealers (iii) Sugar merchants (iv) Oil-dealers (v) Oil millers and (vi) rice and wheat millers;

(b) State-wise break up of the latest figures regarding the bank loans given to agriculturists;

(c) whether care has been taken for advancing loans to small agriculturists; and

(d) if so, the figures in regard to quantum of loans advanced to rich and small agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The available information in respect of outstanding advances of public sector banks as on March 29, 1974 against sensitive commodities covered under the Selective Credit Controls of the Reserve Bank of India, is given in Statement I laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8063/74].

(b) Public sector banks' direct advances to agriculture in different States outstanding as at the end of December 1973 are shown in Statement II laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8063/74].

(c) and (d). While giving advances to agriculturists, public sector banks give due weightage to the needs of the small agriculturists, as will be evident from the holding-wise data of direct advances of public sector banks to agriculturists, furnished in Statement III laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8063/74].

Grant of Ex-gratia compensation for refugees from West Pakistan

833. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether further grants for the claims made by the Indian evacuees from former East Pakistan and 'West Pakistan' in regard to ex-gratia Compensation for their properties declared as 'enemy properties' have been made;

(b) if so, the facts thereabout in regard to latest figures of (i) additional and (ii) total claims met separately for the claimants of the two regions;

(c) the break up of the outstanding claims of the two regions; and

(d) the time schedule for avoiding any further delay in meeting their claims and the steps taken for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 22.15 lakhs has been paid as ex-gratia grant since March, 1974 to Indian nationals/companies who lost their property in former East Pakistan. The total ex-gratia grant paid so far to them amounts to Rs. 2,07,39,000. Similarly since March, 1974, a sum of Rs. 7.81 lakhs has been paid to claimants from West Pakistan and the total ex-gratia grant paid to them amounts to Rs. 1,26,21,000.

(c) About 4500 applications are pending consideration, out of which 80 per cent relate to claimants from East Pakistan and 20 per cent to West Pakistan.

(d) For the claimants who are not able to produce sufficient documentary evidence, a Panel has been set up for examining such claims expeditiously.

Improvement in Internal and International Flights to, from and through Calcutta Airport

834. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any improvement has been made in regard to internal and international flights to, from and through Calcutta airport;

(b) if so, facts thereabout;

(c) Whether flights to and from Calcutta to Delhi and from Calcutta to other places in the Eastern region are inadequate to cope with the demands of this area; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the services?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The number of flights operated by Indian Airlines to, through or from Calcutta has gone up by 18 per week.

(c) and (d) Flights between Calcutta and Delhi are considered adequate to meet the current traffic demands. Indian Airlines hope to provide more capacity in the eastern region in the winter and also provide some new services.

Vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Nationalised Banks

835. SHRI S M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) how many Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates were selected for the posts of clerks and officers by each nationalised bank during 1973-74 and 1974-75;

(b) whether the quota reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each nationalised bank in the carde of clerks and officers has been filled up; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The latest information about recruitment available with the nationalised banks is for the calendar year 1973 and is given in the attached statement.

(b) The banks have reported that quota reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes could not be filled for want of suitable candidates from these communities.

(c) With a view to improving the representation of these communities Government have advised banks to take the following steps:—

(i) to prescribe lower qualifications and qualifying standards for members of Scheduled Castes/Tribes;

(ii) to indicate clearly in the advertisement for recruitment the percentages laid down for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities,

(iii) to place a report, after every major recruitment before the Board of Directors giving the number of Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates recruited by the bank and the shortfall in percentage, if any, and reasons why the full quota was not filled;

(iv) to give wide publicity to reserved vacancies according to the instructions of the Government;

(v) the banks have also been advised to instruct their recruiting offices to contact the pre-recruitment training centres in various States for the training of Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates for the recruitment test; and

(vi) to ask the associations/special bodies looking after the welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes to sponsor suitable candidates for the posts.

Some banks have resorted to the special recruitment exclusively for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates.

Statement

Scheduled Castes/Tribes persons recruited by nationalised banks during the period from January, 1973 to December, 1973

Name of the bank	*Officers*	*Clerks*
1. Central Bank of India	..	104
2. Bank of India	6	139
3. Punjab National Bank	7	145
4. Bank of Baroda	4	409

Name of the Bank	Officers	Clerks
5. United Commercial Bank	11	44
6. Canara Bank .	5	131
7. United Bank of India	4	49
8. Dena Bank	..	140
9. Syndicate Bank	1	169
10. Union Bank of India	10	113
11. Allahabad Bank	..	47
12. Indian Bank	15	170
13. Bank of Maharashtra	1	25
14. Indian Overseas Bank	19	139
TOTAL	83	1824

Representation of S.C. and S.T. by the Board of Directors of Nationalised Banks

836. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Directors of each of the nationalised banks;

(b) the dates on which the Board of Directors was constituted for each bank and the dates on which it will be reconstituted;

(c) whether there is any representative of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Board of Directors of these banks; and

(d) if so, the names for each nationalised bank?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Names of the Directors presently on the Board of each of the 14 nationalised banks are given in Statement 'A' laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8064/74].

(b) The Board of Directors of each of the 14 nationalised banks was constituted, in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970, for the first time on 11th December, 1972. The Scheme provides that the officials of the Reserve Bank and the Central Government appointed on the Board of each nationalised bank shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government, the Managing Director of each nationalised bank shall hold office for such term not exceeding five years as the Central Government may fix in each case and the remaining Directors shall hold office for such term not exceeding three years as the Central Government may specify. Different Directors have, therefore, different terms and the Board of a nationalised bank as a whole will not be reconstituted at one time. As and when the term of a Director is due to expire or when a vacancy arises on account of death, resignation, etc., the question of filling up such vacancies in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme is considered by the Central Government.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The names of existing Directors belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Boards of different nationalised banks are given in Statement 'B' laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8064/74].

Nationalisation of Banks

837. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to nationalise more banks whose total assets exceed Rs. 50 crores; and

(b) the names of those banks which are proposed to be nationalised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Government have no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Representation of S.C. and S.T. in Nationalised Banks

838. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA. Will the Minister of FINANCE of pleased to state:

(a) the representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each nationalised Bank in each Cadre; and

(b) what special steps are proposed to be taken to bring the representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to 15 per cent and 7½ per cent respectively?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) A statement showing the total number of employees in various categories and number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees amongst them in the services of 14 nationalised banks as on 31-12-1973 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8065/74].

(b) Government have advised the nationalised banks to take the following special measures:

(i) to prescribe lower qualifications and qualifying standards for members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(ii) to restrict the temporary appointments of subordinate staff to candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(iii) to indicate clearly in the advertisement for recruitment the percentages laid down for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities;

(iv) to give wide publicity to reserved vacancies according to the instructions of the Government;

(v) to place a Report, after every major recruitment, before the Board of Directors giving the number of Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates recruited by the bank and the shortfall in percentage, if any, and reasons why the full quota was not filled;

(vi) the banks have also been advised to instruct their recruiting offices to contact the pre-recruitment training centres in various States for the training of Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates for the recruitment tests

(vii) the banks have been advised to intimate the reserved vacancies to associations/special bodies looking after the welfare of Scheduled Castes/Tribes requesting them to sponsor suitable candidates.

With a view to improving the representation of these communities in their services, some of the banks have resorted to special recruitment exclusively for Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates.

Memorandum submitted by Handloom Weavers regarding withdrawal of Rebate Subsidy Scheme

839. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Handloom Weavers Congress have submitted a memorandum to Government urging

inter-alia withdrawal of the rebate subsidy scheme which is reported to have been exploited by the Paper Cooperative Societies and corrupt officials; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposals and suggestions made by the All India Handloom Weavers Congress and at what stage of consideration they stand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. Govt. have received a memorandum to this effect.

(b) The subsidy on account of rebate on sales of cloth by the handloom co-operatives is given by the State Governments out of their Annual Plan Outlays. It is, therefore, for the State Governments to consider the question of withdrawal of the rebate subsidy, and utilise the funds earmarked for the scheme for other handloom develoment schemes. However, this is one of the questions examined by the High-Power Study Team on handlooms and the recommendations of the Team will be considered.

Affect of cut in Allocations on Development Plans of I.T.D.C.

840. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cut in the development allocations has hit India Tourism Development Corporation's development plans; and

(b) if so, the plans that are being shelved and the reasons for the cut in allocations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b). During the current financial year the budget allocation of the India Tourism Development Corporation has been substantially reduced due to the constraint on resources. Consequently some of the schemes proposed for implementation during the current year have had to be deferred.

Grant of D.A. to Central Government Employees

841. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to set up a committee to consider the whole issue of payment of D.A. to Government employees in depth and to evolve a national policy for payment of D.A. to the Central Government employees, employees of the Public Undertakings and State Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): There is no such proposal before the Government at present.

Amount advanced by IDBI to different industries and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation

842. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the Industrial Development Bank of India to different industries and the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation during the last three years; and

(b) particulars of projects for which applications for loans from Kerala are pending with Industrial Development Bank of India and the time by which decisions are likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Presumably information is desired in respect of the financial assistance given by the Industrial Development Bank of Inida (IDBI) to industrial concerns in Kerala. During the last three financial years, namely, 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74, the IDBI sanctioned and disbursed total financial assistance to various industrial concerns in Kerala as follows:—

Pinancial Year (April-March)	*Rupees in lakhs Financial assistance* Sanctioned	Disbursed*
1971-72 . .	267·94	168·37
1972-73 . .	698·12	241·92
1973-74 . .	337·61	398·24
TOTAL	1303·67	808·53

*Disbursements include Disbursals in respect of earlier sanctions also.

Out of the above financial assistance, direct financial asistance sanctioned and disbursed to five industrial units sponsored/promoted by the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation was as follows:—

Financial year (April-March)	*Rupees in lakhs Financial Assistance* sanctioned.	Disbursed*
1971-72 . .	80·00	8·00
1972-73 . .	73·70	7.88
1973-74 . .	25·00	103·09
TOTAL	178·70	118·97

* Disbursements include Disbursals in respect of earliar sanctions also.

(b) The required information is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8066/74].

Export of Electronic Equipment

843. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that export of electronics equipments from the country can be considerably increased if we utilise the favourable conditions existing in the State of Kerala for the development of such industries at a very low cost; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the steps Government have already taken or propose to take in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Exports of Electronic equipment are showing a rising trend. Compared to the exports worth Rs. 4.69 crores during 72-73, the estimated performance of 73-74 is of the order of Rs. 9.21 crores. Export of Electronic goods depends on a suitable indigenous production base. The export strategy takes into account various factors such as the state of technology, raw materials availability, labour charges, total cost of production etc.

Kerala Government have set up an Electronics Development Corporation for promoting electronic industries in the State. A number of Licenses/Letters of Intent have been issued to the Corporation for manufacturing wide variety of electronics components/equipments. Some of these units will be export oriented. The Corporation has also been registered with Deptt. of Science & Technology, as a Research & Development Unit.

Export of Natural Rubber

844. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural rubber exported so far and how far it is expected to increase in the coming months; and

(b) how far has the new policy helped the small growers and to stabilise the price of natural rubber?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) 3000 tonnes of natural rubber has recently been exported. The chances of further exports are not bright since the world market price of natural rubber is now ruling below the indigenous market price.

(b) The small growers of rubber are now getting much higher price than the minimum price notified by Government.

Foreign Aircraft used by Government Officials

845. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Government Officials going abroad in many cases use foreign aircraft and not Air India; and

(b) whether foreign airlines give a substantial discount, under the table, to allure the passengers?

THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Instructions exist that as far as possible, Government officials going abroad should utilise Air India services. However, for destinations to which Air India does not operate services or when seat on Air India services are already booked, permission to travel by foreign airlines is given.

(b) It is believed that certain internaional airlines indulge in undercutting of approved fares to lure traffic.

Scheme to boost up Tourism in Fifth Plan

846. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tourism Department made some profit in 1971-72 and 1972-73; and

(b) whether Government are preparing schemes to boost up tourism in the Fifth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) The Department of Tourism is not a commercial undertaking. Such commercial functions are performed by the India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking set up by the Government of India. The Corporation made a profit of Rs 1.69 lakhs and Rs. 29.64 lakhs (before gratuity reserve) during 1971-72 and 1972-73 respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Scheme for canalisation of Book Export

847. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for canalisation of book export has made any concrete progress; and

(b) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No scheme for Canalisation of Book Export is under contemplation of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal to introduce Airbus in Indian Airlines

848 SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce A300 European Airbus in the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions for acquiring such aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The question of the type and number of addi-

tional aircraft to be purchased to augment Indian Airlines fleet is being examined and, in that process, wide-bodies aircraft like A300-B will be studied along with other aircrafts.

Seizure of Gold in Delhi

849. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold worth Rs. 5 lakhs has been seized from a house of a money lender in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether some arrests have been made in this regard; and

(c) whether an enquiry committee has been set up to find out ways and means to unearth unauthorised gold hidden by other persons in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (Shri K R. GANESH): (a) Primary gold weighing 86.500 grammes and gold ornaments weighing 14309.000 grammes, totally valued at about Rs. 4,64,430/-, were seized under the Gold (Control) Act on 2.7.74 from the residence of a person in Delhi. Enquires made so far do not indicate that this person is a money-lender.

(b) No arrests have so far been made in this regard.

(c) No Sir.

Loan from International Development Association

850. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is getting a fresh loan from I.D.A.;

(b) if so, the time by which the said aid is expected to be received in India;

(c) the purpose for which this loan would be utilised; and

(d) the share of the loan to be spent in Rajasthan and the particulars of development tasks on which it would be spent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (d) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to the assistance sought by India from IBRD and IDA for the Chambal Command Area Development Project and the Rajasthan Canal Command Area Development Project, both in Rajasthan. For the first Project, an Agreement for a loan of about Rs. 39 crores (US $ 52 million) was signed with the Bank on 19th June, 1974. The loan amount will be utilised for the improvement and completion of the existing irrigation facilities, road improvement, afforestation, and erosion control, procurement of fertilisers, provision of measures for aquatic weed control, training of staff in on-farm development and carrying out of studies of

of hydrology, reservoir systems operations, consumptive use, drainage design and construction methods for on-farm development in the command area of the Chambal Irrigation Project (falling in Kota and Bundi Districts). The Project is expected to be completed by June, 1980.

For the second Project, the IDA have agreed to advance a Credit of about Rs. 62.25 crores (US $ 83 million). The Credit Agreement is however yet to be signed. The Credit amount will be utilised for land development, lining of Canals, afforestation, construction of roads, procurement of fertilisers, construction of sanitary water supply systems, provision of ancillary services and strengthening of agricultural research and extension in the command area of the Rajasthan Canal Project (falling in Ganga-Nagar Distt.) This Project is also expected to be completed by June 30, 1980.

Financial assistance to Rajasthan for Famine Relief Works

851. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the uptodate break-up of grants and financial aid provided by the Central Government to the State Government of Rajasthan to deal with famine conditions in the State;

(b) the amount spent by the Government of Rajasthan from the State funds in this regard;

(c) whether some development works of permanent nature had been done in the famine striken areas of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the estimated expenditure incurred on these scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R GANESH): (a) A total Central assistance of Rs. 49.50 crores, Rs. 17 62 crores as grant and Rs. 31.88 crores as loan, was sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan towards drought and flood relief expenditure in 1972-73 and 1973-74.

(b) The State Government have reported an expenditure of Rs. 58.14 crores on drought relief measures in 1972-73 and 1973-74.

(c) and (d). The State Government have reported a total expenditure of Rs. 48.95 crores on the relief works alone during 1972-73 and 1973-74. The main items of relief works of a permanent nature undertaken by the State Government were additional employment of people on Rajasthan Canal Project, minor irrigation, afforestation, soil conservation, deepening of wells, sinking of tube-wells etc.

Export of Coffee to Foreign Countries

852. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Latin American countries have stopped export of coffee to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to boost up its export of coffee to foreign countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) A few Latin American countries have reportedly decided to suspend exports of coffee on the ground that coffee prices are falling.

(b) A careful watch is being kept on the situation in the international markets and every effort will be made to increase India's export of coffee consistently with adequacy of price.

Decline in export of Tea to U.K.

853. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of Tea to U.K. suffered a stagnant trend during the years 1971-72 and 1972-73;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to meet the competition; and

(c) the country/countries from which Indian Tea is facing a challenge?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following are some of the important steps taken to boost tea exports to U.K.:—

(i) Joint promotional schemes have been undertaken with major packers in U.K. for promotion of predominantly Indian Tea blends marketed by them in U.K.

(ii) Appointment of a Consultant with a view to revamp London Tea Centre to make it more productive as a promotional centre.

(iii) The Commonwealth Secretariat have been approached to finance a project for cost benefit study of tea promotion in selected markets including U.K.

There has been substantial increase in the prices of Indian teas in the London auctions during recent months and it is expected that this would result in increased foreign exchange earning from tea exports to U.K. Concerted attempts with other producer countries are also being taken.

(c) Indian Tea has to compete with teas from other tea producing countries, like Sri Lanka, Kenya and Indonesia.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER SAVINGS BANKS ACT, GOVT. SAVINGS CERTIFICATES ACT, GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS (NATIONALISATION) ACT, STATE BANK OF INDIA (SUBSIDIARY BANKS) ACT, EMERGENCY RISKS (GOODS) INSURANCE ACT, EMERGENCY RISKS (UNDERTAKINGS) INSURANCE ACT, AND REPORTS UNDER BANKING COMPANIES (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS) ACT.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873:—

(i) The Post Office Savings Banks (Third Amendment) Rules. 1974, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 506 in Gazette of India, dated the 25th May, 1974.

(ii) The Post Office Savings Banks (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 530 in Gazette of India, dated the 1st June, 1974.

(iii) The Post Office Savings Banks (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 584 in Gazette of India, dated the 15th June, 1974.

(iv) The Post Office Savings Banks (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 735 in Gazette of India, dated the 13th July, 1974.

(v) The Post Office Savings Banks (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 736 in Gazette of India, dated the 13th July, 1974. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8046/74].

(2) A copy of the Post Office Savings Certificates (Amendment) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 737 in Gazette of India dated the 13th July, 1974, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8047/74.]

(3) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 39 of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972:—

(i) S. O. 1535 published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1974.

(ii) S. O. 1660 published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 1974 making certain amendments to Notification No. S. O. 771(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1972. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8048/74.]

(4) A copy of the General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff) Scheme, 1974, published in Notification No. S. O. 326(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 27th May, 1974 (English version) and S.O. 1607 in Gazette of India, dated the 29th June, 1974 (Hindi version) under section 17 of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8049/74.]

(5) A copy of the Subsidiary Banks (Appointment of Employee Directors) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 400(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 29th June, 1974, under sub-section (3) of section 62 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959 [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8050/74.]

[Shri K. R. Ganesh]

(6) A copy of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 388(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1974, under sub-section (6) of section 5 of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Act, 1971. [*Placed in Library. See* No Tt-8051|74.]

(7) A copy of the Emergency Risk (Undertakings) Insurance (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 389(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1974, under sub-section (7) of section 3 of the Emergency Risks (Undertakings) Insurance Act, 1971. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-8051|74.]

(8) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(v) Report on the working and activities of the United Commercial Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(vii) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(viii) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ix) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(x) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xi) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of

Maharashtra for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1973 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-8052/74.]

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES, ETC. GIVEN BY MINISTERS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha:—

Fourth Lok Sabha

(i) Statement No. XXXIX	Fou th Session, 1968.
(ii) Statement No. XXXIV	Fifth Session, 1968.
(iii) Statement No. XXXV	Seventh session, 1969.
(iv) Statement No. XXXV	Eighth Session, 1969.
(v) Statement No. XXXV	Ninth Session, 1969.
(vi) Stetement No. XXXVIII	Tenth Session, 1970.
(vii) Statement No. XXIV	Eleventh Session, 1970.
(viii) Statement No. XXVIII	Twelfth Session, 1970.

Fifth Lok Sabha

(ix) Statement No. XXX	Second Session, 1971.
(x) Statement No. XX	Third Session, 1971.
(xi) Statement No. XXI	Fourth Session, 1972.
(xii) Statement No. XV	Fifth Session, 1972.
(xiii) Statement No. XIII	Sixth Session, 1972.
(xiv) Statement No. XIV	Seventh Session, 1973.
(xv) Statement No. VIII	Eighth Session, 1973.
(xvi) Statement No. VI	Ninth Session, 1973.
(xvi) Statement Nos. III,IV and V	Tenth Session, 1974.

[*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-8053/74]

12 hrs.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : अध्यक्ष महोदय एश्योरेंसेज कमेटी ने कई महीने पहले यह निर्णय किया था कि सरकार के द्वारा जानकारी देने के बारे में जो आश्वासन सदन मे दिए जाते हैं इन आश्वासनो को तीन महीने के अन्दर पूरा करना चाहिए । अफसोस की बात है कि मैंने एक प्रश्न पिछले वर्ष 1 अगस्त को पूछा था मुझे जवाब मिला कि जानकारी इकट्ठा की जा रही है । फिर उसी प्रश्न को मैंने 21 नवम्बर 1973 को पूछा। उसमें भी अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरे पास जो जवाब आया है वह आप देखें । मेरा प्रश्न यह था :

"Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1431 on 1st August, 1973 regarding the inquiries against the shareholders of Maruti Limited for economic offences and state:

(a) whether the information regarding inquiries by CBI, Revenue Intelligence and Enforcement Directorate against the major shareholders and the directors of the Maruti Ltd. for alleged tax evasion, blackmarketing, violation of foreign exchange regulations and other irregularities have since been collected; and

[Shri Madhu Limaye]

(b) if so, the details thereof."

उसके जवाब में कहा गया है कि यह बहुत वालमियूनस इन्फार्मेशन है इस को हम लोग इकट्ठा कर रहे हैं। यह 21 नवम्बर की बात है। अब तकरीबन एक साल पूरा हो रहा है। यह प्रश्न आया 1 अगस्त को। अब एक साल पूरा हो रहा है। एश्योरेंसेज कमेटी ने कहा है कि तीन महीने के अन्दर यह काम होना चाहिए। तो क्या इस सदन को या इन कमेटियो को कोई स्वाभिमान या कोई सेल्फ रेस्पेक्ट वगैरह है या नही है या चूंकि यह प्रश्न प्रधान मंत्री से पूछा गया है इसलिए यह रियायत बरती जा रही है ? आप ने इस प्रश्न को स्वीकार किया। यह नियम के अनुसार है। इसमें कोई ऐसी बात नही है जो नियमों के विपरीत हो। तो इसका कोई न कोई फैसला होना चाहिए। इसलिए आपसे मेरी विनम्र प्रार्थना है कि आप एक पक्का आदेश जारी कर दीजिए कि तीन महीने का यह नियम है जब तक स्पीकर की अनुमति नही मिलती है तीन महीने मे वृद्धि नही होगी। तीन महीने को आप बढ़ा सकते हैं अगर आपको लगता है कि इसमें अधिक समय देने की आवश्यकता है। इस तरह का जब तक कोई प्रावधान नही होगा इन कमेटियों की कोई इज्जत नही की जायगी और सदन में जो आश्वासन दिये जाते हैं उनकी पूर्ति नही होगी।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I am sure you will remember that during the last session when we were discussing the no-confidence motion at about 1.30 a.m. and we highlighted the problem of those railway employees whose services were being terminated, who were jailed and so on, we were given a solemn assurance by the Railway Minister that once the strike was withdrawn, there would be no victimisation and the railway employees would be treated as members of a family. This was repeated also many times during the last session. But unfortunately, that assurance has not been fulfilled even today. The strike was withdrawn without any conditions just to create a favourable condition for normalcy. That was done unanimously on the 28th May, and the strike was withdrawn. But we heard yesterday and the day before that that assurance had not been fulfilled yet. So, I would request Shri Shankaranand or Shri K. Raghuramaiah to convey our feelings, which are actually, the feelings of the entire House, that the assurance given earlier should be implemented. I would request you to kindly ask the Railway Minister to make a statement as to why those assurances have not been fulfilled. Once again I would request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to convey our genuine sentiments to the hon. Minister and see that all the railway employees are taken back.

श्री राम रतन शर्मा (बांदा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय एक पत्रकार का मसला है जिसने हरिजनों का मसला उठाया था ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप कैसे खडे हो गए ?

श्री राम रतन शर्मा : श्रीमन्, मैंने लिख कर दिया था ।

हरिजनों का मसला उठाने पर उस को पकड़ कर हैंडकफ कर के ले जाया गया ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : देखिए किसी मौके पर तो खड़ा होना चाहिए । ऐसे ही बीच में आप खड़े हो गए ।

Now, Secretary-General.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरे प्रश्न पर कोई रूलिंग आपने नहीं दी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : रूलिंग क्या दूं ? कुछ सोच समझ कर देना पड़ेगा ।

श्री मधु लिमये . अध्यक्ष महोदय कुछ आप अपनी ताकत का प्रयोग कीजिए और हमारे अधिकारों की रक्षा कीजिए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरी ताकत आप इतनी बढ़ा देते हैं .....

श्री मधु लिमये . मैं बिलकुल आपकी ताकत बढ़ाना चाहता हूं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरी ताकत जितनी है वह तो रूल्स में दी हुई है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : मै चाहता हूं अध्यक्ष महोदय, कि किसी दिन आप का और प्रधान मंत्री का कस कर झगड़ा हो इसके ऊपर हम लोग आपका साथ देंगे ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I think the Minister was going to say something.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): There is no question of postponing anything because they particular Minister is insolved. I deny that insinuation. Normally we do try our best to fulfill the assurance given within three months, but in certain circumstances it may not be possible, but we shall certainly bear in mind the urgency of such matters.

12.09 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have tc report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1974, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd July, 1974".

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Rampur Raza Library Bill, 1974, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd July, 1974."

BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir I lay on the Table of the House the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:

(1) The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1974.

(2) The Rampur Raza Library Bill, 1974.

12.10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported repression on Adivasis in Maharashtra and West Bengal

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

'Reported forcible eviction of Adivasis from their agricultural lands in Maharashtra and West Bengal and police repression on them.'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, according to information obtained from the State Government, there had been large scale encroachment of forest land in the two forest division of Dhulia District. As on 15th July, 1974, 7719 acres of forest land were under encroachment in the two forest divisions. Efforts made by the Forest Department to secure the removal of encroachment through persuasive methods did not succeed. Therefore, the State Forest Department removed the encroachment in 2023 acres with the help of the State Reserve Police. The encroachment was not for residential purposes and, therefore, no Adivasi family was evicted from their residence. The State Government have also reported that allegations of repression by the State Reserve Police have been found to be without foundation. The State Government have taken steps to provide alternative employment and source of livelihood to persons who had encroached on forest lands. A scheme costing Rs. 21 lakhs for road-building, soil conservation, afforestation etc. is being implemented in that areas.

Government are aware of the problem of alienation of Adivasis land in this area. The State Government have informed us that they are proposing to amend suitably the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code so as to safeguard the interests of Adivasis.

The Government of West Bengal have been requested to furnish the relevant facts regarding newspaper reports alleging eviction of Adivasis from their agricultural lands in Jhargram area in Midnapore District of West Bengal.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The cursory and scrappy statement made by the hon. Minister on the floor of the House gives no evidence at all that he comprehends the gravity and seriousness of the situation created in Maharashtra and West Bengal by the eviction of Adivasis and the unparalleled and unprecedented repression that is let loose by the SRP and Police on the Adivasis who are struggling for their legitimate rights.

As far as Maharashtra is concerned, Adivasi belts like the Chandrapore district and the Dhulia district are seriously affected by the agitation of the Adivasis that is going on there. The agitation is by the Adivasis, the Harijans and also the nomadic tribes.

I draw your attention to the fact that I had raised the issue of atrocities on Adivasis, Harijans and nomadic tribes in Manekgarh in Vidarbha district of Maharashtra under rule 377 on 26-4-74. In the course of my observations, I had categorically demanded from Government that the Union Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should make an on-the-spot inquiry of the struggle that is going on in Manekgarh in Vidarbha, Maharashtra and also to ascertain whether there were atrocities on Adivasis, Harijans and nomadic tribes. I also said that the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Sche-

duled Tribes should also investigate the matter.

I will just read the direction given by the Deputy Speaker then. When I specifically demanded that the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should make an on-the-spot inquiry and the Parliamentary Committee should also probe into it and report to the House, the Deputy-Speaker had given the following direction.

> "Mr. Dandavate, I think, he has made a very constructive suggestion. He has referred to the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He has certain responsibilities and let him do his job."

I am happy to note that though rather late, the Union Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has already done his job. He went to Manikgarh and made an on the spot enquiry. I am pained to find that the statement of the Minister is less than whatever has appeared in the press. He has not even cared to contact the Union Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes whose office is very close. If only he had listened to the details furnished by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, such wrong, incorrect, cursory statement would not have been made in the House. I would like to read before the House the specific statements made by the Union Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this regard. I am quoting from the Nagpur Times dated 16th July, 1974:

> "Manikgar Encroachers—Mane criticises Government's Eviction Decision.
>
> Mr. Shankarraro Mane, Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, criticised here today the decision taken by the Maharashtra Government to evict the so-called encroachers on forest land in Manikgarh area of Chandrapur district.
>
> Mr. Mane, a former Congress M.P. who toured the area on July, 13 and 14 told Nagpur Times in an interview that the problem was essentially a human one and it should be dealt with in that perspective. He hoped that the Government would see the issue in that light.
>
> Mr. Mane said that out of 2068 families on the land in question, residing in 51 villages, 617 belonging to Scheduled Castes, 12 to Scheduled Tribes and 543 to nomadic tribes, 886 families were from others, including a number of those belonging to the other Backward Classes etc.
>
> His attention was drawn to the problem and the plight of the large number of persons from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Nomadic Tribes, who have developed land there some time back, Mr. Mane said. He had written to Mrs. Pratibha Patil, Minister of Social Welfare in this regard and asked her to look into the question.
>
> Mr. Mane said that he could not understand as to how for the last so many years the Government allowed these families to settle on the reserved forest land, develop it and start farming. What were the Forest and other officers doing? As a matter of fact, the Government had *de facto* recognised the settlers by providing them with many facilities like schools, wells, panchayats etc. and also by recovering taxes from them. Their names were also enrolled in the voters' lists and they have voted in the various elections from 1971 onwards, Mr. Mane said.
>
> It was the unscrupulous forest contractors who in collusion with or connivance of forest officers that destroyed the forest and the settlers only came later, Mr. Mane said.

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

He failed to see how the Government would be able to replant the forest which would take decades to grow to economic value....." etc.

He said there are political overtones to the problem. I had pointed to this House the atrocities committed at Manikgarh were so pronounced and tragic that even a cursory report of these tragedies would move any sensitive heart. When forest officers went to destroy a hut, a pregnant woman just to about to deliver was dragged out by the forest officer and both the woman and the new born baby died. When advasis and scheduled castes men were removed in a truck, one child was left by a Harijan woman. A forest officer jumped from the truck and trampled a small baby under his feet and the child died. When scheduled castes men were taken to the Andhra border and left in the lurch, one thirsty child died for want of food and water This is the manner in which they have been treated. The Home Minister is not able to give us the details. Fortunately, a prominent newspaper in Bombay, the Maharashtra Times, sent a special representative, Shri Dinu Ranadive to Manikgarh and he has written two special despatches in the Maharashtra Times dated 17th and 18th July. They have shown the houses that are destroyed and burnt They have given the details of the interviews they had with those on whom the atrocities were committed by the police.

I would like to have a categorical reply from the hon. Minister to my questions. When I have raised this question under rule 377, why is it that the investigation made by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not been brought before the House? Why is it that the Parliamentary Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not investigated into the problem?

MR. SPEAKER: He should conclude now.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, if he had made some reference to it, I would have asked some questions. In fact, Sir, you should have pulled up the Minister for not giving all the information.

There is another instance. In Dhulia district of Maharashtra there is a powerful movement led by the Socialist Party, the CPM and the CPI, which movement is growing in volume and intensity. In Dhulia district, which is the north Adivasi belt of Maharashtra, 4,000 Adivasi families have been evicted from 20,000 acres of Government forest land. I am seeking specific information on this point Is it not a fact that in this particular belt the Maharashtra Government had appointed two special tehsildars to survey the transactions in lands of the Adivasis and that they have given their finding? Deliberately, the Maharashtra Government have not brought forward the finding of the survey because they know that if the findings of the survey are made known to the country, the lethargy of the Government would be thoroughly exposed and the atrocities committed by the police and the landlords on the Adivasis would be throughly exposed These are the facts that I place before you.

In conclusion, I want to ask the Home Minister why he has given only a scrappy note and not detailed information Why did he not show the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes the courtesy of meeting him? I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the details that I have placed before him are correct or not. Will he next time place before this House a complete report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes and will the special Parliamentary Committee for Scheduled

Castes and Tribes go into the matter and investigate the problem? Even if you sit tight, the militant Adibasis in Maharashtra are not going to take it lying down. They have already raised their banner of revolt and they will continue to fight for justice which has been denied to them I want the hon. Minister to reply to these questions. As far as West Bengal is concerned, my hon. friend, Shri Samar Guha, will raise the problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Every time members tell me that I do not limit the time. Now they can very well imagine how difficult it is.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The hon. Member has mentioned about Manakgarh in Chandrapur district and some incidents which took place there. The statement that I have made is particularly with respect to the recent incidents in Dhulia district. But I would like to mention that after the matter was raised here, about Manakgarh and other tribal areas, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes went to the spot, as suggested by the hon. Member, which he would have done even otherwise. Far from not meeting him, I met him immediately after his visit to the spot. I met him this morning also before I came to the House, to try to know first hand what has happened there. We are in touch with the developments. Shri Mane himself has written a letter to the Chief Minister. When I went to Bombay in connection with a Joint Committee, I met the authorities there and discussed with them what legislative, administrative and other measures are needed to meet the situation which was developing in a very serious way. As I mentioned in my statement, there was some lacuna in the tenancy laws regarding the transfer of land from the Adivasis to the non-Adivasis.

We have received information from them that they propose to issue an Ordinance which will plug the loopholes. So far as legal lacuna is concerned, they will try to remove it.

As regards other matters, I have mentioned what steps we are taking to rehabilitate these persons who were evicted. They have also given reasons why they were evicted. It is because they had forcibly occupied and encroached upon forest lands. We have impressed upon them the necessity of rehabilitating them even if they were illegally in possession of those lands. We have told them that if they have to be evicted, they should be provided alternative lands and means of livelihood. We will pursue the matter.

As regards the atrocities committed, I will not go into details. They have given certain assurances. I would like to ensure the hon. Member.... (*Interruptions*). The police have also been beaten; they have also been injured. I would not like to go into all those details. I would like to assure the House that we will again take up this matter with them and see that nothing happens which hurts the pride of Adivasis. All protection will be given to them and they will be rehabilitated.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I would like to know, as per the direction of the Chair, from the hon. Minister whether the Commissioner's Report will be brought before the House. Why were the findings of the Commissioner not brought before the House? He has violated the direction of the Chair. It is on record. I lodge my protest. Adivasis do not get protection in this House. Sir, I read out before you the direction given by the Deputy-Speaker. The Government refuses to follow the direction of the Chair. What should we do? When we violate your direction, you pull us up. But when the Government violates the direction of the Chair, you do not do anything. There is a direction from the Chair that the Report should come

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before the House. I request you, Sir, in the name of Adivasis.....

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you getting so sentimental, so emotional? The Minister has already said that they are going to issue an Ordinance to amend the Act and do everything. He has given a full assurance. What else do you want?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Whatever direction is given by the Chair, you please see that the Government follows the direction from the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not to issue direction from here. I have no authority to issue directions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What is the dignity of directions coming from the Chair?

MR. SPEAKER: I am not prepared to give any direction. The Minister has already given a very categorical and a very clear reply.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has not said that the Commissioner's Report will come before the House. He has not said that.

MR. SPEAKER: He has given a very clear reply. Why do you bring in the Chair here?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Because the Chair has given a direction.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट आयेगी या नहीं इसका जवाब दिलाइये ।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let the Home Minister at least say, as directed by the Deputy Speaker, the Report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will come before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already given a clear and categorical reply.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सरकार को क्या आपत्ति है रिपोर्ट रखने में ?

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है और वह यह कि एक स्पेसिफ़िक प्रश्न पूछा गया, आपने पूछने की इजाजत दी है । तो आप जवाब क्यों नहीं दिलवाते हैं ? सम्पूर्ण उत्तर आना चाहिये ।

MR. SPEAKER: He has given a categorical assurance.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let him say that the Report will come before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, he has given a very clear reply.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: No, Sir. The entire House wants that the Report should come before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: His reply was quite categorical. He gave a very clear reply.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let him say that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am not aware of any direction given by the Chair to produce the report on these incidents to the House. All that I could learn from what the hon. Member quoted from the proceedings was that the Commissioner should go to the spot and enquire. The Commissioner goes to the spot from time to time and enquires about many

things. He gives a report every year which is presented to the House. Here, Sir, I have to consult him because there are certain things which he writes to the State Governments....

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर): अब तो आप गृह मंत्री को निर्देश दे ही सकते हैं कि वह कमिश्नर से पता लगा कर इस घटना के बारे में जो भी उनकी रिपोर्ट है उसको सभा पटल पर रखें।

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I will consult the Commissioner. He is a dignitary under the Consitution. There are certain things which he writes to the State Governments. I will consult him, how much of that he would like to include in his Annual Report in the light of the comments received from the State Governments.... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: The position is like this. You asked a question. The Minister replied, and in his reply he gave a very categorical assurance that the Act is being amended. You said that the Commissioner was not consulted. You read out the statement made by him. The Minister in his reply has said that he had already contacted the Commissioner and even this morning he was in touch with him. Now what should be the procedure? Should he read out the State Government's reply and then also the State Commissioner's reply? After all, he will be replying on behalf of the Government. In this report it is expected that he got the information from the available sources, and he has said that he contacted the Commissioner also. Besides that, what else do you want? D you 'think 'that, while replying on behalf of the Government, he should say that this is Maharashtra Government's reply—or Government of India's reply or this is the Commissioner's reply and this is this officer's reply or that officer's reply? So far as the procedure of this report is concerned, it is a report which has already come to this House. Now I will have to settle this. The procedure I accept once will become applicable in future also. Now what should I do? Have I to ask him, to read, on the one hand, this Government's official reply and then also ask him to say that this is Government's reply, this is Commissioner's reply and so on?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: मिर्धा जी ने अभी कहा कि कमिश्नर का पद संविधान द्वारा स्वीकृत पद है, कमिश्नर पर एक विशेष जिम्मेदारी है। अब अगर सदन चाहे तो कमिश्नर से आग्रह कर सकता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मुझे एक सवाल का आप जवाब दे दें। मैं गलत हाऊंगा तो मान जाऊंगा। क्या जवाब सारे सांसिस पर बेस्ड होना चाहिये या नहीं? गवर्नमेंट ने क्या इत्तिला दी है कमिश्नर ने क्या दी है, क्या ये सब अलग अलग जवाब आने चाहियें या एक जवाब आना चाहिये। क्या इस तरह से आना चाहिये कि यह यह है और वह वह है? मुझ से डायरेक्शन मांगते हैं तो सोच समझ कर ही करना पड़ेगा। अभी डायरेक्शन इस तरह से मैं नहीं दे सकता हूं। आपको रीजनेबुल होना चाहिये। आपने कहा कमिश्नर को कंसल्ट किया है?

He said he was in touch with the Commissioner. He talked to him earlier as well as only this morning. He has said it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I agree with your contention. All that I say is that after consulting the Commissioner and the Government of Maharashtra, let him come forward with some statement. Probably you have not read that statement. There is not even a reference to Manikgarh.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Madhu Dandavate, please sit down. He gives the reply on behalf of the Government and that reply includes it. He has made it clear. I can ask somebody to read his reply also.

परम्परा में याद रखूंगा । एक मिनट में खत्म हो जाता है तो जो चाहें मुझ से कहलवा लीजिये । आइंदा के लिये और प्रेसीडेंट होंगे ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के बारे में केवल सरकार का कहना काफी नहीं है । इसीलिए कमिश्नर का पद है । रिपोर्ट उसकी आए इसी वास्ते संविधान में व्यवस्था की गई है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब उनके बारे में सवाल आए तो गवर्नमेंट का वर्णन भी चाहिये और उधर का भी । इसको मैं मान लूंगा । लेकिन एक प्रश्न के दो-दो जवाब कैसे मानूं ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : दो दो जवाब हो सकते हैं ।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have missed a point. There is no reference to the Maharashtra Government's attitude. He has said nothing either about the Maharashtra Government's attitude nor the Union Government's attitude as far as Manikgarh is concerned. There is no reference in the statement at all.

MR. SPEAKER: That you can ask.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As far as Manikgarh is concerned, you have given nothing of either Maharashtra Government's attitude nor that of the Union Government.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member should not shift his ground. If he is saying that part of the information has not come, I would not take a minute to allow you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You please go through the proceedings. I have said it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As I have myself said, this statement concerns Dhulia, Because that is a recent occurrence we thought that the hon. Members would be interested in knowing the facts about it. But we were aware of the point the hon. Member raised in a previous session. In fact the visit of the Commissioner is with respect to Manikgarh and not Dhulia. Therefore, I have given all the information saying that as desired by the hon. Members, the Commissioner visited the spot and he made inquiries and he was in touch with the Government of Maharashtra and also in touch with us and we are pursuing everything that flows from that report.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka): Ask for the report of the Commissioner.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): My friend, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, has given a brief description of the barbarous atrocities committed on the people of Manikgarh. I want to submit that just at the moment the hon. Minister admitted that he had no idea that the Deputy-Speaker had given a special directive to him to consult the Commissioner, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and then inform the House about the matter of consultation.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will henceforth consult the Commissioner about this special matter raised by my friend, Prof. Madhu Dandavate and whether he will place a report of the discussion held between him and the Commissioner on the floor of the House. You will remember that you admitted this

motion on Tuesday, today is Friday and they might have had a telephonic talk with Calcutta. Central Minister Prof. Kisku comes from that area and Mr. Subodh Hansda another Central Minister also belongs to that area and Mr. Mohato, the West Bengal Minister, visited jhargram area. Atrocities are being committed there and agitation is going on. Many of the adivasi leaders have been arrested. Their meetings are not allowed to be held. I have visited that area. Cannot they get information by telephone? I think, Sir, you should pull them up for these things. They are trying to treat adivasi people very callously. In the All India Congress Committee they passed any number of pious resolutions in support of socialism, but is this the way of doing about it? This community is being oppressed and are exploited. They should get a better treatment. Only that will be real socialism. But what is this? This Jhargram area was inhabited by adivasi people; it was a forest area; hundreds of them lost their lives there while reclaiming the land there because of the wild animals. A Raja was given zamindari of that area and he brought many landowners here to oust the adivasi from these lands. This is what happened. Now, because of the new Land Act passed by the West Bengal Government many of the sharecroppers are being ousted to deny them the right to enlist their names in the settlement records for these lands, so that they cannot get the land as per the land Settlement Act. The Police is Shielding them. In the name of Yuv congress or youth congress local MLAs cooperate with the police to throw out adivasi sharecroppers from the land. This is plantation time but they are stopped from sowing. Their saplings are uprooted.

The Congress talks about the process of land reforms and the law passed by the West Bengal Government, but I want to ask you whether this is the way in which a model law is to be evolved and implemented. Is this the way of doing such things? The adivasis are the most exploited community.

Sir, the adivasis were cultivating these lands for the last 10 or 15 or 20 years. In the name of afforestation these adivasis are being driven out and they are not allowed to sow. Saplings are being spoiled, saplings are being uprooted. I can understand all this provided alternative land is given to them. But the Government have not done that. How can you deprive them of the land that they were cultivating for the last ten or twenty years?

First of all the Government said that they do not have any information. I mentioned to the hon. Minister the other day that agitations were going on in this regard. If you do not take any steps there will be further agitations. I want to know from the Government whether they are issuing instructions to the West Bengal Government to see that these adivasis are allowed to enlist their names in the settlement records as land-owners and to see that oppression by the Police and M.L.As. should be stopped. Also, are you giving any instructions to the West Bengal Government that unless and until alternative land is provided to the adivasis no eviction of adivasis should take place from their lands which they have been cultivating for many years? Sir, they talk a lot of about socialism; they talk a lot about the exploited community—adivasi community. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. What kind of pudding are you placing before the adivasis—the most exploited community?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Sir, we have not received any information from the West Bengal Government. We sent them a wireless message and we even telephoned to them. Even before the calling attention notice came, we saw a statement by Shri

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

Samar Guha regarding eviction of adivasis in the Midnapore District. On the basis of that report we approached them to give us all the facts of the case As regards eviction notices issued by West Bengal Government, we shall convey to the State Government and shall pursue this matter with them and if and when we receive details about the eviction from them, I can convey it to the hon Member personally and see that they take steps to go ahead with the land reforms This is exactly what the hon Member has said This is the policy that the Central and State Governments have been following with respect to advasis and we would impress upon them the necessity of pursuing all these things in the proper spirit

श्री मूलचन्द डागा (पाली) अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस क्रिया और व्यवस्था से लोगों को पीडा होती है क्या वह हिंसा है या नहीं ? यदि सरकार की कोई ऐसी क्रिया हो, जिस के द्वारा आदिवासियों को तकलीफ पहुचती है तो वह क्रिया हिंसा की तारीफ में आती है या अहिंसा की तारीफ में आती है । प्रश्न यह है कि यह क्रिया कब तक चलेगी। यदि सरकार उन लोगों के अधिकारों की रक्षा नहीं कर सकती और उन के जीवन-निर्वाह की व्यवस्था नहीं कर सकती और यदि वे लोग अपने अधिकारों की रक्षा करते है तो क्या वह क्रान्ति कहलाती है या हिंसा कहलाती है?

मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या सरकार को आदिवासियों की समस्या की जानकारी है कितने आदिवासियों को जमीन एलाट की गई है और बाकी को कब एलाट की जायेगी, वहा पर कितने आदिवासी फॉमिलीज की जमीन थी और कितनी फैमिलीज को वहाँ से हटाया गया है । मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि राज्य सरकार ने यह सूचित किया है कि वह आदिवासियों के हित में सम्बन्धित कानून में संशोधन करना चाहती है । राज्य सरकार को इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद । वह बडी जागरूक सरकार है । मंत्री महोदय, बताये कि महाराष्ट्र सरकार सम्बन्धित कानून में कब तक संशोधन करेगी । मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हू कि अब तक कितने आदिवासियों को को एम्प्लायमेंट दी गई है ।

सवाल यह है कि अगर सरकार आदिवासियों के लिए उचित व्यवस्था नहीं कर सकती है और वे लोग क्रान्ति करते हैं, तो सरकार को उन के बारे में ठोस कदम उठाने चाहिए । वे लोग अपना पेट भरने के लिए जमीन चाहते है ।

आप उन्हें जमीन देना नहीं चाहते, आप न उस के लिए कोई रास्ता निकाला नहीं न उन के लिए कोई एम्प्लायमेंट है । वे क्या करें ? मुझे में पहले बोलने वाले वक्ताओं ने जो कहा कि इस प्रकार का प्रत्याचार हुआ तो सरकार की उन आदिवासियों के प्रति क्या जिम्मेदारी है ? महाराष्ट्र की सरकार से पूछिए कि उन्होंने उन के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की दी जिस से वे अपनी जीविका निर्वाह कर सके । उन आदिवासियों को कौन सी जमीन दी गई । किन मालों में आपने 25 साल के बाद भी लैंड रिफॉर्म के संबंध में कौन सा अमेंडमेंट कानून में कर दिया कि जिस से उन्हें जमीन मिले ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत व्यापक प्रश्न पूछा है कि कितनी जमीन आदिवासियों को दी गई, सरकार ने कितनी दी । मैं समझता हू कि इस ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव के संबंध में यह सारी सूचना देना संभव नहीं है हालांकि इस विषय पर बहस भी कई दफा हो चुकी है और तथ्य समय समय पर बताए गए है ।

जहां तक उन्होंने यह कहा कि इस कानून का संशोधन कब तक हो जायगा इस के बारे में मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि महाराष्ट्र सरकार एक आर्डिनेंस जारी करना चाहती है उनकी जमीन के कानून में संशोधन करने के लिए, तो हमें आशा करनी चाहिए कि जल्दी ही यह संशोधन हो जायगा जिस में जो कानूनी खामियां हैं वह दूर हो सकें ।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): There is an inhuman reign of terror and I would like to know what the Committee of this House--the Committee for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes--are doing about it.

SOME HON. MEMBER: It is * *

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I do not know whether it is. **

Has this Committee visited the places where atrocities have been committed on scheduled castes and scheduled tribes? If they have not gone there. I would like to know why have they not gone there.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु, आप किसी को तो स्पेयर किया करें । जो हाउस की कमेटियां हैं उन पर रेफ्लेक्शन नहीं होना चाहिए .....

श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु : मैंने नहीं किया मैंने कहा कि गए नहीं जाना चाहिए ।

Somebody from behind said it. I did not agree with that.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जो आप ने रिमार्क किया यह रिकार्ड में नहीं जायगा ।

श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु : मैं ऐसा बोला नहीं । कोई पीछे से बोला, मैं बोला हम इस से सहमत नहीं है ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : नहीं अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल फिर कोई कहेगा कि पब्लिक एकाउंट्स कमेटी भी**

श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु : बोला करें, हम उस को रेफ्यूट करेंगे । रिपोर्ट दिखाएंगे । और मैं ऐसा बोला नहीं ।

The three places where this reign of terror has been let loose are—Nagri, Navadpur and Sahadal. The Adivasis tilled these lands for three to twenty years and this area is only technically forest. They have been paying occupation for decades and there are government receipts for the same. The Congress Government very recently decided to evict them systematically. Even sowed lands have been ruined and they have also been prevented from further sowing. Frequent atrocities are being committed and even cases of rape of Adivasi women have taken place. Government have filed 198 cases against Adivasis to divert the public mind. The District Collector made a propaganda that there is a parallel Government but he had to withdraw it later. They have deployed 500 State Reserve Policemen and they are playing havoc. They have demolished hundreds of huts belonging to scheduled castes.

They have taken to indiscriminate arrest; and they have not spared even boys aged ten to twelve and they have kept in jail for two months without trial. On the one side you have these starving, decaying and struggling. Adivasis and on the other hand there is the mighty police raj of the Maharashtra Congres Government plus the mighty Purushottam Sena.

As regards the Purushottam Sena. there are 30,000 acres of land under sugarcane; for each acre of land, the owners paying Rs. 7 per acre; the owners of 45,000 acres of irrigated land

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

are paying Rs. 5 per acre, and the balance at Rs. 4 an acre. All this is collected to maintain the big Purushottam Sena, named after Shri Purushottam Patel, Congress leader and the headman of the co-operative bank finance sugar tycoons. They have employed 12 commanders, 100 havildars, 1300 watchmen, 200 horses, 120 rifles, jeeps and motor-cycles. Rs. 19 lakhs is their annual budget.

In Dhulia in Maharashtra, the matter under reference, the landless people are numbering about 2,61,000, farmers 2,19,000; 37 per cent of the tribals...

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about the eviction of the Adivasis.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Yes. Adivasis in Maharashtra. We are talking about Maharashtra and West Bengal. If you like, I can bring a map and an encyclopaedia and show you.

MR. SPEAKER: No, I do not need his guidance in this.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What does the call-attention notice say? Let us read it. It says:

> "..forcible eviction of Adivasis from their agricultural lands in Maharashtra...."

What am I talking about? I am talking about Maharashtra. (*Interruptions.*)

Dhulia is in Bengal. Mr Congressman? Dhulia is in Bengal, Mr Bhagwat Jha Azad?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: (Bhagalpur): I know that. You are talking much beyond Maharashtra. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am talking about Maharashtra.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Don't talk like that. I know where Dhulia is. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let both of them please sit down.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Why does he come in between? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: May I tell both of them to please sit down. Why does he go out of the way to annoy him?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What did I say, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: Why does he go out of the way? Why does he not deal with his own motion?

He is unnecessarily annoying and provoking others.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patna): He said, "Is not Dhulia in Maharashtra?" And he became angry.

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not going into record, the observations about Dhulia and all these unpleasant remarks.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Is it unparliamentary?

MR. SPEAKER: No, that is not the question. We was expressly pointing to them and saying, "You Congressmen, you Congressmen". It was done in a very contemptuous manner. He was very provocative. Let him not be provocative. He can do without provocation. Let him go on without provocation.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: "You Congressmen". Shall he say "You Jan Sanghis"?

MR. SPEAKER: It was said in a very contemptuous way.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): The tone, the gesticulation and the reaction in the House—it is these you have to consider. It was said with contempt and derision. We are not to be treated like this.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उन्होंने कुछ नहीं कहा था । श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु जो कुछ कहते है और जो कुछ कहने में समर्थ है उस को देखते हुए तो इस समय उन्होंने कुछ नहीं कहा—ये क्यों नाराज हो रहे है ?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: On a point of order. In the course of these angry exchanges.... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Bosu, would you kindly accept my advice? When talking, you had better deal with the motion instead of going left and right.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Bhagwat is a friend of mine outside. But when he says that Dhulia is not in West Bengal and I retort by saying "You Congressmen", why should he get angry?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Does he want a reply? I will give it. I will say why I became angry. It is not a question of saying "You Jyotirmoy Bosu". I say you are derogatory in your language. (*Interruptions*).

13 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly sit down.

SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA (Arambagh): On a point of order. Mr. Jha has provoked this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing of this unpleasant incident should come on record. We will ensure that. Nothing unpleasant will come on record.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): There is nothing unpleasant.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: On a point of order. What Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu said is on record; you confirm it. He said nothing unparliamentary. Why do you allow this wasting of time on this important call attention?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE (Basirhat): Unparliamentary words may be expunged. But words do not matter; it is the mode and manner of expressing them that is being objected to.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a question of being unparliamentary. He is unnecessarily provocative.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Bhagwat is a friend of mine. If he has not been able to take a joke, I am sorry.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: He is not the wisest man here. We understand joke. But it is the tone and demeanour that is being objected to. You are derogatory. You say "You Congressmen". If I say "You, Madhu Limaye," he will understand it better. I understand jokes.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: In Dhulia district in Maharashtra, landless peasantry comes to about 2,61,000 as against 2,19,000 farmers and 37 per cent are tribals. That is the largest tribal concentration. There are 3.6 million Bhils out of 6 million tribals in the district. Besides there are Pawras, Gavits and Konkams. No real land ceiling has been imposed. Land reform is unknown in that area. The scheduled tribes and adivasis lost land in two ways—one by slave labour in their own land and another on the false pretext, on medical grounds and putting up documents showing fictitious loans at a very high rate of interest. Even unlawful legal ownership has been managed. In other areas also like Manikgarh in Chandrapur district near Nagpur and in Thana District evictions have taken place. In Thana District one scheduled tribe was killed. In Sutrakar, eviction had taken place on a large scale at the instance of a man called Chandu Halvai of Gopalan Samithi one person was killed and another injured. We demand that the SRP should be withdrawn

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

at once and ownership of Adivasi tilled land should be regularised in their favour. Inputs for development of agriculture should be given and a crash programme of afforestation should be started, because the Government-appointed forest officers have destroyed the adivasis sources of livelihood.

In West Bengal, there has been repression of Adivasis in Purulia in Ranibundh area. Thousands of tribals have been evicted from the Kausabati project area and have been rendered nomads and beggars. In Jhargram in North Bengal, West Dinajpur, Malda and 24 Parganas the same fate is facing the tribals. In Tripura Gomti Project, 15,000 evicted persons are starving. In Ranchi big projects have come up and people have suffered most. For reporting the fate of the tribals and the atrocities committed on them in Banda district, the local correspondent of *Times of India* was recently arrested by the district authorities. There is a news item in today's *Times of India*: "Graft exposure lands newsman in jail". He has been handcuffed and paraded because he has been high lighting the atrocities inflicted on the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. It is a very shameful matter.

I want clear and categorical replies to my questions.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As regards allegations of rape on adivasi women, we asked the State Government wherther these allegations are true. We hav received a report which says that neither the concerned women appeared before the District Magistrate nor any complaint was given The District Magistrate asked them to make a complaint.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What about Purushottam Sena?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As regards the para military forces he has referred to, he raised it last year in the consultative committee also. This was gone into by us in consultation with the Maharashtra Government. They say they are taking all precautions to see that this force does not come into being.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It is already in existence.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The Maharashtra Government have reported that the planners of the scheme have not taken any concrete steps for putting the scheme into operation nor any proposals have been submitted to the district authorities for approval. As a precautionary measure, the State Government have directed the district police authorities not to recommend to the District Magistrate, Dhulia, any application for grant of fresh arms licences.

The District Magistrate, Dhulia, has also directed the licensing authority not to grant fresh arms licence to the applicants in Shahadara and Talode taluks.

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: Do not take u for a ride. What about the Sena named after Purushotham Patel, which consists of 12 commanders, 100 havildars, 1,300 watchmen, 200 horses and 120 rifles besides jeeps and motor cycles? It was started by Purushotham Patel. Kindly give specific replies. Then, what about the evictions and demolitions of hutments?

RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Regarding the Purushotham Sena the Maharashtra Government themselves have said that the will not issue any licence to this sena or any other para military force.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I was talking agout .....

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you interrupt him all the time? Let him give his reply. If he goes on interrupting like this at every stage, let the Minister not give any reply.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That should apply to everybody.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The proposed amendment to the land laws will take care of the difficulties that the hon. Member has mentioned.

The last point mentioned by the hon. Member was about those persons who have been displaced as a result of irrigation and other projects. There is a clear policy regarding the rehabilitation of the Adibasis and others who are evicted as a result of this and I hope that under that policy these Adibasis would be properly rehabilitated.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: This Calling Attention Notice is of a general nature dealing with atrocities on harijans and Adibasis in West Bengal and Maharashtra. Kindly look into the statement that the Minister has given. According to that, 2,023 acres of land were encroached with the help of the State Reserve Police and the Adibasis were removed, and that no Adivasi family was evicted from their residences.

What is the basis of this report? When you have evicted Adivasis from the agricultural land covering 2,023 acres, how could you say there were no residential houses from which Adivasis were evicted? I say, categorically, it is a wrong statement. The Minister must verify it.

The Adivasis live wherever they till the land. They make their homesteads nearby. How can it be that Adivasis were only evicted from lands and not from their homesteads and that their homesteads were not demolished? I do not know from where the Minister got this report. I want to have a categorical reply to that.

Only yesterday, the Prime Minister categorically said that their Government is going stronger and stronger every day. This is the picture that you get every day. Daily, when you open any newspaper, you find there are atrocities committed somewhere on Harijans, Adivasis and other weaker sections of the people. Everywhere it is happening. Even today, the *Patriot* has given a 'news item entitled "Police atrocities on Adivasis". Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu has already mentioned that one Mr B. D. Gupta, the Correspondent of the Times of India was arrested for the news item given in the Times of India because he correctly reported about the atrocities committed on the Harijans which will affect the Congress party in elections in several States. That is why he was only not arrested but he was manhandled and insulted in every way.

That is how the Government is run by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. There are terrible things happening in almost all the States. What have you done in Tripura? In Tripura, the tribals have been extinct. Their lands have been taken away. Who is responsible for that? Have you ever tried to ascertain the report from the Tripura Government as to how many tribals are still there and who evicted them from their lands? Your Government is responsible for all this.

As regards West Bengal, wherever you go, you find there are atrocities committed on Harijans and Adivasis. Shrimati Indira Gandhi should feel ashamed. She made a false statement that during the U.F. regime, the people could not go from one place to another. But here are some people who will corroborate me that during the U.F. regime, not a single Adivasi

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

was evicted from any land. Now, throughout West Bengal, you see that Adivasis and Harijans are being evicted from their lands. There is no guarantee of their land. Not only their share of crop but even those who have their own land are being evicted by money-lenders and others. What are you going to do about it?

You have one Parliamentary Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and one Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. What is that fellow doing? What is the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes doing? He is not appointed by the Speaker. Mr. Basumatari, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee is nominated by the Speaker. What is that fellow doing? The allegations have been made here on several occasions. I know, hundred and one times the issue has been raised here in the House. It is a matter of shame. But in spite of all these, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, never feels ashamed. Only yesterday she was very loud in saying that the nation was going ahead.

He must answer to all my questions.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: It is most unfortunate that the hon. Member has used such disparaging language against the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Shri Mane, who is the present Commissioner, is a very devoted and dedicated person. The cause of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is very dear to his heart, and his reports on various matters have helped the Governments at the Centre and in the States in improving the state of affairs. I do not think the hon. Member was justified in making the reflection that he did. On the one hand we expect the Commissioner to be effective, to go to the spot and then make reports, and on the other hand, without knowing the facts or without any basis for their observations the hon. Member makes such wild and highly derogatory remarks against such a high dignitary.

As regards the hon. Member's contention as to how is it that the Adivasis were evicted from their land and not from their homesteads, this information has been specifically given by the State Government that they were only encroaching upon land and when they were evicted from them, there were no homesteads or other things. Therefore, there was no question of evicting them from their homesteads. This has been ascertained from them. This is what they have informed us.

As regards the general question of Tripura Adivasis and other Harijans and Tribals, all I can say is that the policy of the Government in this respect is very clear and everything is being done by the Central Government and the State Governments to see that all the difficulties and atrocities are removed and the Adivasis are properly protected.

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NATIONAL LIBRARY BILL

(i) Report of Joint Committee

SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR (Chandigarh): I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the administration of the National Library and certain other connected matters.

(ii) Evidence

I beg also to lay on the Table a copy of evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the administration of the National Library and certain other connected matters.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 29th July, 1974, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper,

2. Consideration and passing of:

(a) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1972, as reported by the Joint Committee.

(b) The Oil Industry (Development) Bill, 1974.

(c) The Major Port Trusts (Amendment) Bill, 1974.

3. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1974 and consideration and passing of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1974, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

4. Consideration and passing of the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1974.

MR. SPEAKER: I will go in the same serial order in which I have received them.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I want to draw your attention to the report that has appeared in the States man of Calcutta of 25th July. In this report they have published the report of the Netaji Inquiry Commission and has given a two-column report.

A few days ago I met the Prime Minister as also the Minister of Home Affairs. Both of them declined to disclose the findings of the Netaji Inquiry Commission, but I now find that a Calcutta paper having anti-Netaji background has been chosen to leak out the findings of the Commission. And, the reason is obvious.

I do not know whether Mr. Khosla has also supported the findings of the Shawnawaz Khan Committee. But in the course of the proceedings of the Commission, Mr. Khosla observed about Shawnawaz Khan Committee:

"The report of the Shawnawaz Khan Committee is non-existent for the Khosla Commission."

Again, he observed:

"Mr. Shawnawaz Khan came before the Commission to plead his own case."

Further, he observed:

"Of course, Shri Shahnawaz Khan told lies."

But, I am now surprised to find that it is totally correct that he has dittoed the findings and proceedings of the Shahnawaz Khan Committee.

It was not surprising that Mr. Khosla, after retirement as Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, was presiding over and over again ceaselessly over commissions after commissions and strange enough, when he was conducting the Inquiry Commission's work he wrote a biography of the Prime Minister . . .

MR. SPEAKER: This is about the business for next week.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I am coming. He wrote a biography of the Prime Minister an unusual thing, euologising her and also bringing gifts from abroad for the Prime Minister, While going abroad as the Chairman of the Commission and it was not unexpected Judge of such devalued integrity that he will act as a puppet and submit a dictated report.

I am more than definite from all the inquiries that I have made and informations that I have, that Netaji did not die in that plane crash. I have many reasons to believe that Netaji is still alive. Through you, today, I am giving an ultimatum to the Home Minister that if

the Netaji Inquiry Commission's report is not submitted next week, I have to take a stand which may not be in conformity with the ordinary propriety or norms of parliamentary behaviours and if it means, I remind you, Sir, a heavy cost I have to pay. Four years have passed. Now one month after the report was submitted, it has been leaked out and I am not going, nor the country is going, to tolerate if it has not been released. I repeat, whatever be the price I have to pay, next week if it is not submitted, I have to take some positive stand.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Tellicherry): I want to raise a matter concerning the Delhi University where a serious situation has been created by the management of the Shamlal College who has illegally dismissed three teachers of the college. The Teachers' organization came out protesting against this. Students also came out in protest of this. The strange thing is that the University authorities and the Acting Vice-Chancellor himself had come out saying that the action is illegal.

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to relate it to the next week's business.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: The Education Minister himself gave an assurance that no action against the teachers will be taken without the concurrence of the University, but the Management is somehow very strong, it appears and very corrupt too. Not that I am levelling any wild allegation. The PAC report itself has pointed out that this management had swindled the money which was given by the UGC. Now, they wanted to take Rs. 60,000 from the management. The point is this. We want to raise a discussion here whereby we could discuss all these points. The University should be given sufficient powers. If necessary the University Act should be amended to give powers to firmly deal with the management. Government should come forward with a statement saying that the suspension of teachers is withdrawn, forthwith. I want to raise this matter by way of a short-duration discussion next week and I would also request the Government to come forward with an amending Bill of the Delhi University Act as soon as possible providing sufficient powers to the University in this matter.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): Sir, we have received very distressing reports which have appeared in the papers regarding the semi-famine conditions prevailing in the State of Orissa because there is absolutely no rain in this month. This is the planting season. Many of the seelings have completely withered, paddy fields practically cracked; the Hirakud reservoir and Jalapur reservoir have not been filled up with water yet and this in turn has affected the electricity supply. Because of these semi-famine conditions there has been distress sale of utensils and various labourers who used to be engaged in agriculture operations have left their homes and they have migrated elsewhere. The Orissa Government says that 839 gram panchayats have been declared as distress areas. The Government of Orissa have moved the Centre in this matter. A Central team should be sent there to assess the position there. The Minister should come out with a statement. This is my respectful submission.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: (Kanpur): Sir, I raise an important issue which agitates the minds of more than 22 lakhs of Central Government employees and State Government employees in the country and I wish to point out that as per the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission, whenever there is a particular rise of cost of living index, the Central Government employees are entitled to a slab of dearness allowance. The Minister has agreed and he has declared that from 1st April 1974 the Cen-

tral Government employees are entitled to two slabs of D.A. The first is from 1st April 1974. Another according to us is from 1-5-74 but according to the Government from 1-6-74. This dearness allowance has become due to the Central Government employees long before the ordinance has come into existence. Once it is admitted that their recommendation is accepted it is clear that they will be entitled to this slab of dearness allowance as and when this thing takes place. The Cabinet Secretary made a statement in the press conference that it is not the Government's intention to withhold the dearness allowance. Mr. Ganesh is here and I am happy about it. He should make a statement that this D.A. would be paid immediately and this will not come under the mischief of the ordinance which has been promulgated in the month of July.

There is another matter and this is about the Provident Fund employees. They are entitled to a wage revision and this has been agreed by the Board of Trustees. The Labour Minister has okayed the thing.

Both of them were parties to this. But, this was not okayed by the Finance Minister.

Lastly, I want a statement from the Home Minister regarding the atrocities committed on the harijans in U.P. and other places. My hon. friend has quoted a statement that the Times of India representative has been arrested under D.I.R. because of the heinous crimes committed by him by the district authorities. I want the Home Minister to make a statement in this regard.

I would like the Finance Minister to immediately declare that the further instalments of D.A. already due would be paid to the employees without any reduction

श्री रामरतन शर्मा (बांदा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बांदा के स्टेट्समैन के पत्रकार श्री बी० डी० गुप्ता जी लगभग 3 वर्ष से हरिजन समस्याओं को उठा रहे है, हरिजनों पर जो अत्याचार बांदा जिले मे किए गए, अपने पत्र के द्वारा उसे पूरे देश के ज्ञान मे ला रहे है उन्हें इस सरकार ने जो सरकार यह कहती है हरिजनो का वह काफी सरक्षण कर रही है डी०आई०आर० मे गिरफ्तार किया। हरिजनो पर होने वाले अत्याचार के विरुद्ध आवाज उठाने वाले को सरकारी कर्मचारियो ने डी० आई० आर० मे गिरफ्तार नही किया बल्कि उन को सडको पर हथकडी डाल कर घुमाते हुए ले गए, जेल मे उन को एक अकेली कोठरी मे चार दिन तक रखा, उन को जमानत नही होने दी गई। मै आप का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करता हूं और आग्रह करता हू कि आप गृह मत्री से कहे कि वह इस पर अगले सप्ताह बयान दे।

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan): Sir, the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1970-71 has not yet been discussed until now. As a matter of fact this should have been discussed in 1972. The motion regarding this report has been admitted by you. And that is why the discussion on this report should be held in the next week

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhanduka): Why not we discuss the remaining reports also?

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: They are lagging behind; the reports have not yet come. They talk a lot here and outside the House regarding upliftment of the SC and S.T. But, in actual practice the report of the Commissioner for the year 1970-71 was received in 1974 And we shall be discussing the reports like calling attention discussion. What is the use of discussing

the report of 1970-71 in the year 1974? The unfortunate part of it is that that report is still not being discussed

My last request is regarding inclusion to and exclusion from the list of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes order. A bill in this regard should be introduced in Parliament Even the assurance of the Minister to Shri Kachwai was not implemented I demand that the Bill should be brought in at least in the next session

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्राविडेंट फंड कार्यालय मे काम करने वाले हजारो कर्मचारियो के सिलसिले मे सवाल उठा कर यह कहना चाहता हू कि इस सवाल पर इस सदन मे बहस हो। अगर यह संभव नही हो तो श्रम मंत्री एक विस्तृत बयान दे क्योकि उनका नाम भी इस मे सम्मिलित है। स्थिति यह है कि तृतीय वेतन आयोग की रिपोर्ट निकली। प्राविडेंट फंड कार्यालय मे काम करने वाले कर्मचारियो ने सरकार से माग की कि उन के लिए अलग वेतन-मान पुनरीक्षित किया जाय, अर्थात रिवीजन किया जाय। इस माग के तहत बातचीत चली। श्रम मंत्री से भी बात हुई और सैंट्रल बोर्ड आफ ट्रस्टीज जो प्राविडेंट फंड का है उन से भी बात हुई। उन्होने एक सब-कमेटी बनाई। उस ने एक सुझाव पेश किया और उसे ट्रस्टी बोर्ड ने भी सर्व-सम्मति से मान लिया जिसे बाद मे श्रम मंत्री ने भी स्वीकार किया और कहा कि सरकार रिवीजन आफ पे मानेगी, यह दावे के साथ उन्होने विश्वास दिलाया कर्मचारियो को। लेकिन बाद मे अब यह कहा जा रहा है कि सरकार वेतन आयोग से आगे जाने को तैयार नही है, कर्मचारियो को पुनरीक्षित वेतन मान नही दिया जायगा।

अब इस सवाल को लेकर उनके अन्दर बडा असन्तोष है। एक आन्दोलन का सिलसिला उन्होने शुरू किया है और अभी श्रम मंत्री के कार्यालय के सामने चार-पाच दिनो से वे भूख हडताल पर बैठे है।

इस सम्बन्ध मे मैंने एक चिट्ठी वित्त मंत्री जी को लिखी थी जिसमे मैंने कहा था कि पुनरीक्षण की उन की माग सही है। श्रम मत्री उन को इस का आश्वासन भी दे चुके है। बोर्ड के ट्रस्टीज का एक मत फैसला है कि आप इसे स्वीकार कीजिये। लेकिन उन्होने जवाब दिया कि हम तृतीय वेतन आयोग से आगे जाने के लिये तैयार नही है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बडे महत्व का सवाल इस लिये है कि हजारो कर्मचारी पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के राज्यो से फैले हुए है, यदि इस का हल न निकाला गया तो आग बडी दिक्कत होगी हंगामा होगा।

दूसरी बात श्री शकर दयाल सिह जी उठाने वाले है—मैं उन के समर्थन मे अभी से कुछ कह देना चाहता हू यह विषय ट्रैक्टर फैक्टरी का है

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी (गोपालगंज) अभी नही।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) सुन लीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय आप को वे गलती से कह गये है, इस को रहने दीजिये। उन को ही उठाने दीजिये।

श्री रामअवतार शास्त्री : सुन लीजिये बिहार मे जो ट्रेक्टर फैक्टरी बनने वाली है उस को उठा कर आप यू० पी० मे ले आना चाहते हैं--यह गलत है । वहां छोटे ट्रेक्टर बनाइये और यू० पी० में बड़े ट्रेक्टर बनाइये--ऐसा कोई रास्ता निकालिये ।

13.43 hrs.

[SHRI JAGANNATHAN JOSHI *in the Chair*]

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for permitting me to raise one serious matter pertaining to my home city and constituency—Ahmedabad—where the housing conditions are at present deplorable and even dangerous.

In textile areas, particularly Old Chamanpura colony more than 360 families are living in blocks built by the Gujarat Housing Board. These blocks are built in such a way that on the Colony's town planning road on both sides right above that road—the high tension grid wires pass. Particularly in the monsoon season there are blasts, short-circuits and wire-cuts. Because of this kind of hazard, two young children died last year. Therefore, these grid wires should either be removed or the people who are living there should be given permission to build their houses in such a way that they can provide some security against this danger.

Then there is the problem of slum dwellers, and unfortunately their number runs into lakhs. Now, particularly in areas like Gulbai Tekra, these people are being forcibly evicted and many of them are finding a lot of difficulty during this monsoon period. No proper amenities exist for these slum dwellers. It is a veritable hell. It is said about the Moghul Emperor Jehangir that when he was in Kashmir he was so enhanted the place that he quoted one Persian couplet ending with the words "Hamin Asto; Hamin Asto; Hamin Asto" (This is heaven; this is heaven, and this, is heaven). But one can say about the slum called "Kolaba", for example in Ahmedabad that it is a veritable hell where not even essential amenities have been provided for the last so many years. I want the Minister for Works and Housing and the Slum Clearance Board of Gujarat to look into this matter. The Government should give more funds to the Slum Clearance Board of Gujarat to tackle this problem.

Finally, the lower middle class people living in areas in the walled city of Ahmedabad are also finding housing difficulties. Some of them live in precarious buildings. If they are not given certain facilities like cement they would be on the road. They require only a bag or two of cement. Their requirement for cement should be fulfilled. These houses may collapse any minute if there is big rainfall. These are some of the problems of the poor and middle class people and the under-dog in my constituency and, I hope, the Gujarat Administration under the direct supervision of Centre will do something quickly both in terms of helping and also in terms of finding more money for these poor house dwellers so that they may be able to live without any danger to their life and property, particularly during the monsoon season.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): I join with Shri S. M. Banerjee in demanding that the Government must immediately make an announcement regarding the payment of dearness allowance. Two instalments are already due to the lakhs of Central Government employees. If the Central Government play this mischief with their employees, the State Governments will also do the same thing. But we find that the prices are still rising. I would request the

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to convey our feelings to the Government. Shri K. R. Ganesh is here and he should make an immediate announcement.

My next point is regarding nationalisation of textile mills, at least those mills which have been taken over by the company. In my State of West Bengal, 14 mills have been taken over. The condition of all these milk is very precarious. Government had assured us at the meeting of the consultative committee attached to the Ministry of Industrial Development that a Bill would be brought forward for the nationalisation of the textile mills. But I do not know wheher any Bill is going to be brought forward in that connection during this session or not. I would request Shri Raghuramaiah to convey this to the hon. Minister concerned.

Lastly, the power position in West Bengal is precarious. You will be astonished to know that throughout West Bengal, specially in the industrial belt as well as in the agricultural areas, the people are becoming mad for want of power. The big industrialists, the medium one and also the small ones are all finished. Especially the small industrialists have been finished. Even the ordinary consumers are not getting power. Yet no promptness is being shown by the State Government or the Central Government in dealing with this issue. So, I would request the Government to come forward with a statement on this.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : सभापति महोदय, मैं चाहता हूं कि अगले सप्ताह इस सदन में पूर्वी भारत में जो अकाल की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो रही है उस के ऊपर 193 के तेहत बहस करवाई जाए। आसाम और बिहार की रिपोर्ट आ चुकी है कि वहां भूख के चलते लोग मरने लगे है, कुछ मौतें हो चुकी है, बच्चों को बेचा जा रहा है। मंत्री महोदय पहले इस पर बयान दें और बाद में 193 के तेहत इस के ऊपर बहस हो।

इसी तरह की इन्सानियत का दूसरा सवाल जो मैंने कल उठाया था—बम्बई में रेल मंत्रालय के निकम्मेपन के चलते जिन मजदूरों को डिस्मिस किया गया था उन को काम पर नहीं लिया गया है। नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि लोकल ट्रेन्ज ठीक ढग से नहीं चल रही है। 16 रैक्स अभी तक ना-दुरुस्त अवस्था में है। भीड़ की घुटन के चलते लोग मर रहे है, दो-तीन आदमियों की मौतों की खबरें मेरे पास पहुंची हैं। क्या रेल मंत्री के इसके ऊपर वक्तव्य देंगे और इस पर चर्चा करने का मौका देंगे।

बिहार में इस वक्त जो आन्दोलन चल रहा है उस में मंत्री श्री कर्पूरी ठाकूर को भागलपुर जेल मे रखा है। वहा उस के साथ ऐसा दुर्व्यव्हार किया जा रहा है कि उन को अनशन शुरू करना पड़ा है। हमारी पार्टी के जैनरल सैक्रेटरी श्री सुरेन्द्र मोहन को मोतिहारी के कलेक्टर ने न केवल गिरफ्तार किया, बल्कि उन के साथ ही बेहुदे ढग से व्यवहार किया, उन के साथ गाली-गलीज की और कहा कि आप की हैसियत क्या है, उन के खिलाफ़ झूठे मुकदमे जारी किए गए है।

अन्त मे, डीअरनेस एलाउन्स के फ़ीज़ को जो बात चल रही है उसके सम्बन्ध मे मुझे यह कहना है कि डीअरनस एलाउन्स जिस आधार पर आका जाता है, कैल्कुलेट किया जाता है, उस इन्डेक्स नम्बर में अब परिवर्तन करने की जरुरत है। कलकत्ता मे एकसपर्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बाद, जिस के तेहत यह कहा गया है कि मजदूरों के महगाई भत्ते में 50 रूपये माहवार की चोरी हो रही है—यही स्थिति सभी शहरों में है। आल इंडिया इंडैक्स नम्बर में भी परिवर्तन की जरूरत है और जो डी० ए० उनको मिलना चाहिए वह भी उनको दिया जाना चाहिए। इसके साथ साथ उस में परिवर्तन करने का काम भी किया जाए।

दीक्षित जी बैठे हुए हैं। मैंने बिहार का मामला उठाया है। श्री रघुरी ठाकुर और श्री सुरेन्द्र मोहन के साथ जो दुर्व्यवहार किया है, उसके बारे में सदन को वह जानकारी दें।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (चतरा) : बिहार स्थित एग्रो इंडस्ट्रीज डिवेलपमेंट कारपोरेशन ने भारत सरकार को एक ट्रैक्टर कारखाने के बारे में लिखा था और भारत सरकार ने 5 नवम्बर 1973 को जो पत्र भेजा उसके अनुसार उन्होंने इस दिशा में आगे बढ़ने के लिए बिहार सरकार को कहा। इसके परिणाम स्वरूप उस कारपोरेशन ने एच एम टी मशीन टूल कारपोरेशन किया और ट्रैक्टर कारखाने खोलने की दिशा में काम शुरू हुआ। उस पर अब तक लगभग 25-30 लाख रूपया खर्च भी हो चुका है। अब यह पता चला है कि उक्त ट्रैक्टर कारखाने वहां से आप उत्तर प्रदेश में ले जाना चाहते हैं और इसके बारे में साजिश चल रही है। आप देखें कि 25-30 लाख रूपया वहां खर्च हो गया है, बहुत से कर्मचारी बहाल कर दिए गए हैं, पचास एकड़ जमीन इसके लिए ली गई है। यह सब हो चुकने के बाद अब पता चला है कि उक्त कारखाने को उत्तर प्रदेश में ले जाने की साजिश चल रही है। मैं संसदीय कार्य मंत्री से अनुरोध करूंगा कि उत्तर प्रदेश एक समृद्ध प्रान्त है और हम लोग उसके बराबर नहीं हो सकते हैं। बिहार एक गरीब प्रान्त है, अनेक समस्याओं से जूझ रहा है। कम से कम इस समस्या से हम लोगों को ऊबर दें। मैं चाहता हूं कि अगले सप्ताह भारी उद्योग मंत्री अथवा औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री इस सम्बन्ध में स्पष्ट बयान सदन की पटल पर रखें ताकि सारी स्थिति साफ हो सके।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (ग्वालियर) : आने वाले सप्ताह की कार्यवाही में कुछ महत्वपूर्ण चार्ज हैं जिन को लिया जाना आवश्यक है। सरकार तथा कुछ व्यक्तियों के द्वारा काश्मीर के सम्बन्ध में चर्चा शेख अब्दुल्ला के साथ की जा रही है। उसके कारण नाना प्रकार की भ्रान्तियां देश में फैलती जा रही हैं। गृह मंत्री बैठे हुए हैं। उन से मैं कहना चाहता हूं। कच्चा-टिब्बू का भी आपने भूदान कर दिया है। उसको देख कर लोगों की शंकाएं और भी बढ़ गई हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप स्पष्ट बात इसके बारे में बताएं कि काश्मीर के बारे क्या चर्चा भारत सरकार शेख अब्दुल्ला के साथ कर रही है।

रेल कर्मचारियों के साथ हड़ताल के दिनों में बहुत ज्यादतियां की गई हैं, उनके परिवार वालों के साथ बहुत दुर्व्यवहार किया गया है। इसके बारे में सरकार ने कोई स्पष्ट उत्तर नहीं दिया है। इस पर चर्चा करने का मौका हमें मिलना चाहिए। सरकार ने एक पक्षीय बात ही कही है। बहुत सी बातें और बहुत से उदाहरण हमारे पास भी हैं जिन से आपको पता चलेगा कि उनके साथ बहुत ज्यादती की गई है, उनके साथ दुर्व्यवहार किया गया है। बहुत से लोगों को नौकरी से अलग कर दिया गया है। उनको नौकरी पर वापिस नहीं लिया गया है। सरकार के अपने आंकड़े हैं कि 5 लाख 81 हजार लोगों की संख्या में ब्रेक किया गया है। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस सारी समस्या पर अगले सप्ताह हमें चर्चा करने का मौका दिया जाए।

देश में हरिजनों के साथ जो अत्याचार हो रहे हैं उनकी संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है। इस कारण से उन में आतंक फैला हुआ है। इस पर भी चर्चा होनी चाहिए। कमिशनर की 1971-72 की रिपोर्ट आई हुई है। उस पर भी चर्चा होनी चाहिए। अगर कभी चर्चा होती है तो जो कहा जाता है कि उस पर अमल नहीं किया जाता है। मेरा निवेदन है कि इस पर चर्चा हो। एक बिल भी पेंडिंग पड़ा हुआ है, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स बिल। उसके बारे में कमेटी बनी थी। उस पर लाखों रूपया खर्च हुआ। उस बिल के बारे में अभी तक आप कोई निश्चय नहीं कर सके हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि उस पर भी चर्चा हो।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद (भागलपुर) : मुझे आश्चर्य और दुख है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में एक ट्रैक्टर का कारखाना होने के बावजूद भी बिहार जैसे पिछड़े हुए प्रदेश के, जिस के पिछड़ेपन की दुहाई सभी नेता भी देते हैं, वहां जो ट्रैक्टर कारखाना लगने वाला है और जिस के लिए वहां की एग्रो कारपोरेशन ने पचास एकड़ जमीन भी ले ली है, कुछ कर्मचारी भी बहाल कर लिए हैं और तीस लाख रुपया भी खर्च कर लिया है इसको अब उत्तर प्रदेश में ले जाने की साजिश की जा रही है। यह सब कुछ कर चुकने के बाद भारत सरकार के अफसरों को और बंधुओं को यह ज्ञान हुआ कि इसको उत्तर प्रदेश में ले जाना चाहिये। मैं नहीं समझता हूं कि इससे बड़ा अन्याय उस के साथ और कुछ भी हो सकता है। अगर ऐसा हुआ तो हम लोग इसको जोरदार कम्पेन का प्वाइंट बनाएंगे यह साफ बात है और नेतागण इसको सुन लें। यह न्याय की बात नहीं है। एक फैसला हुआ, जमीन हमने ले ली कुछ कर्मचारी बहाल हो गए, तीस लाख खर्च भी कर दिया गया, अब चूंकि बिहार के नेता इतने सशक्त नहीं है, इसलिए इसको वहां से उत्तर प्रदेश आप ले जाएं, यह नहीं होना चाहिये।

मैं यह भी चाहता हूं कि शिक्षा मंत्रालय दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति से मेरी इस बात को कहे। जेसस मेरी स्कूल की प्रिंसिपल ने एक लड़की और उसके अभिभावक के झगड़े को ले कर आप जिन लड़कियों ने परीक्षा पास कर ली है, जिन का परीक्षा फल निकल गया है रिजल्ट आउट हो गया है, उसके रिजल्ट को विदहोल्ड वह करना चाहती हैं। यह इस कारण से एक गार्डियन और उनकी पुत्री से उनका झगड़ा हो गया। आज वह कहने लग गई हैं कि इनके लैंग्वेज आर्ट थे। उसी प्रिंसिपल ने लैंग्वेज आर्ट होने के बावजूद उनको भेजा, उनका इम्तहान हुआ, उनका रिजल्ट आउट हुआ, वे पास हो गई हैं लेकिन अब वह कहती हैं कि हम इसको होने नहीं देंगे। इसके बारे में भी मैं चाहता हूं कि शिक्षा मंत्री एक बयान दें।

हरिजनों के सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूं। संथाल परगना के महागामा प्रखंड के अन्दर परसा गांव के भूमिहीन हरिजनों ने जो मकान बना लिए हैं उनको सरकार अब तोड़ना चाहती है यह कह कर कि यह गोचर जमीन पर बने हैं जबकि उसी गोचर जमीन पर मोटी मोटी असामियों ने मकान ही नहीं बना लिए हैं बल्कि उसको जोत भी लिया है। यह चीज वहां पर जो बी डी ओ है या कर्मचारी हैं उनको दिखाई नहीं देता है। मैंने इस सवाल को अब यहां इसलिए उठाया है कि बिहार सरकार के हर मंत्री को मैं लिख चुका हूं जब पन्त जी थे तब उनको लिख चुका हूं, मिश्रा जी को लिख चुका हूं लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ है। मैं पी सफुल काम करता हूं। चूंकि अब तक कुछ नहीं हुआ है, इसलिए मैं आप इसको यहां उठा रहा हूं। काफी समय तक पेटीशनों में इंतजार किया है। मैं चाहता हूं कि अगर वह गोचर जमीन है और उस पर से आप हरिजनों को उखाड़ना चाहते हैं तो उनको आल्टरनेटिव जमीन आप दे दें और उनको हटा दें लेकिन उसके साथ साथ जो मोटी मोटी असामियां वहां बस गई हैं उनको भी आप उखाड़ फेंकिये। बेचारे गरीब हरिजनों के साथ इस तरह का अन्याय आप न करें। मैं पत्र लिख चुका हूं और चूंकि कुछ नहीं हुआ है, इसलिए मैंने इस सवाल को आज यहां उठाया है।

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (बांका) मैं डी एम एस के सम्बन्ध में एक प्रश्न उठाना चाहता हूं। यह दिल्ली, गुड़गांव, बुलन्दशहर और मेरठ इन चार जिलों से सम्बन्ध रखता है। आज से पहले आप खोये और क्रीम पर पाबन्दी दो महीने के लिए लगाया करते थे या उससे कम समय के लिए लगाया करते थे।

इस वर्ष आपने यह पाबन्दी चार महीने के लिए लगाई। दूध बेचने का काम हजारों छोटे छोटे किसान और हरिजन भाई करते हैं। मालदार को किसान हैं वे दूध बेचने का काम नहीं करते हैं। गर्मियों के मौसम में उनको जरा ज्यादा दाम मिल जाते हैं। लेकिन यह पाबन्दी लगा कर आप उनको इससे वंचित कर देते हैं। इन गरीब लोगों की रोजी जो दूरस्थ स्थानों में रहते और काम करते हैं चार महीने के लिए आपने बन्द कर दी है। जब बहुत बड़ा डैपुटेशन आ कर यहां आप से मिला था तब उसको आश्वासन दिया गया था कि दिल्ली में बारिश शुरू होते ही इस पाबन्दी को हम हटा देंगे। बारिशें शुरू हुए आज 20-25 दिन हो गई हैं। एक-एक दिन में चेयरमैन को और सब को याद दिलाने आ रहा हूं और लिख कर भी भेजा है कि अपने आश्वासन को आप पूरा करो और जो पाबन्दी आपने इन चार जिलों पर लगाई है इसको हटा दो। रोज यही कहा जाता है कि गजट आज हो रहा है कल हो रहा है। इस प्रकार गजेट होते-होते एक सप्ताह हो गया है। मेरी समझ में कुछ नहीं आ रहा है। आखिर यह सरकारी मशीनरी किस तरह से काम कर रही है मुझे समझ मे नहीं आता है। 31 जुलाई को वैसे ही यह अवधि समाप्त हो रही है। आज 26 हो गई है। पांच दिन और हैं। पांच दिन और आप अपनी बात को पूरा कर लो और पांच दिन और देरी कर लो। लेकिन आइंदा के लिए मैं आपको विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि अगले वर्ष से इस तरह की पाबन्दी हर्गिज नहीं लगने दी जाएगी। कोई भी आश्वासन पूरा नहीं होता है।

सौभाग्य से कृषि मंत्री श्री मौर्य सदन में बैठे हुए हैं। इस विषय का उन के इलाके से भी सम्बन्ध है और उन के विभाग से भी सम्बन्ध है। इस सम्बन्ध में डेपूटेशन पहले उन से मिलते भी रहे हैं। अगर यह गजेट होने में एक हफ्ते का समय लगेगा तो उस का क्या कारण है? अगर सरकार अपनी मशीनरी पर काबू नहीं पा सकती तो पता नहीं इस देश का क्या होगा। सरकार के किसी आदेश का पालन नहीं होता है और कोई आश्वासन भी पूरा नहीं होता है। लोगों में असंतोष और निराशा फैलते जा रहे हैं और हम लोग उस का कुछ समाधान नहीं का पाते हैं। अगर मंत्री महोदय इस बारे में कुछ कह दें तो अच्छा है।

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Shri Chavda and Shri Kachwai raised the question of the discussion of the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. This has already been listed in the probable business for the current session. When considering the arrangement of the business of the House, keeping in mind the emergencies of other work, we shall certainly bear in mind the grave anxiety of the members concerned. The rest of the points shall be communicated to the concerned Ministries.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I have raised the question of the two instalments of dearness allowance which have fallen due. There is a fear that Government want to bring these two instalments from 1st April and 1st June within the mischief of the Ordinance, even though they have fallen due before the promulgation of the Ordinance. Otherwise, grave injustice will be done to the Central Government employees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Finance Minister will take notice of it.

14.03 hrs.

DELHI SIKH GURDWARAS (AMEMDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Delhi Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1971.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introdue a Bill to amend the Delhi Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1971."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will adjourn now and meet again at 3 O' Cock.

14.05 hrs.

(The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till Fifteen of the Clock)

The Lok Sabha adjourned or lunch lunch at two minutes past Fifteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FORTY-SECOND REPORT

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Tellicherry): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th July, 1974."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th July, 1974."

The motion was adopted.

TRADE UNIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

15.03 hrs.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Trade Unions Act, 1926.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce Bill further to amend the Trade Unions Act, 1926."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

PAYMENT OF GRATUITY (AMENDMENT) BILL*

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS AND FAMILY PENSION FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL*

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employees' Providend Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 26-7-74.

PUNJAB PRE-EMPTION (AS IN FORCE IN THE UNION TERRITORY OF DELHI) REPEAL BILL*

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : (मुरैना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि दिल्ली संघ राज्य क्षेत्र में प्रवृत्त पंजाब शुफा अधिनियम 1913 को निरसित करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"Tat leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Punjab Pre-emption Act, 1913, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi."

The motion was adopted.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूं ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Rana Bahadur Singh.....He is not here. Mr. Chandrappan.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new article 83A)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Tellicherry): I beg to move for leave to introducve a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ranabahadur Singh—he is not there. Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi—also not there.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 75)

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA (Motihari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Karni Singh—not here.

CEILING ON PROFITS BILL*

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल (समस्तीपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि कतिपय कारबारी गृहों समुत्थानों उपक्रमों आदि के लाभ की अधिकतम सीमा नियत करने का उपबंध करने वाले विधेयक को पुरः स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय ।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the fixation of ceiling on profits of certain business houses, concerns, undertakings, etc."

The motion was adopted.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : मैं विधेयक पुरः स्थापित करता हूं

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 26-7-74.

FOREIGN COMPANIES REGULATION BILL*

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि देश में विदेशी मुद्रा संसाधनों के संरक्षण तथा देश के आर्थिक विकास के हित में उनके उचित प्रयोग हेतु ताकि आत्म निर्भरता प्राप्त की जा सके भारत में विदेशी कम्पनियों के प्रचालन के विनियमन सम्बन्धी विधियों का समेकन तथा संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुर स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय ।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the laws regulating the operation of foreign companies in India for the conservation of the foreign exchange resources of the country and the proper utilisation thereof in the interests of the economic development of the country, leading to self-reliance."

The motion was adopted

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं विधेयक पुर: स्थापित करता हूं ।

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(*Amendment of article 297*)

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुर: स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय ।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं विधेयक पुर:स्थापित करता हूं ।

FOREIGN HONOURS AND AWARDS (REGULATION) BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the conferment of foreign honours and awards on Indian nationals

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate the conferment of foreign honours and awards on Indian nationals."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMARGUHA: I introduce the Bill

FOREIGN PROPAGANDA IN INDIA (REGULATION AND CONTROL) BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to restrict the motivated political propaganda of foreign countries in India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill to restrict the motivated political propaganda of foreign countries in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I introduce the Bill

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SECOND WAGE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUGAR INDUSTRY BILL

by SHRI D. K. PANDA—*Contd.*

15.06 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up further consideration of the Bill moved by Shri D. K. Panda to provide for the implementation of the recommendations of the Second Wage Board for Sugar Industry. We had allotted 2 hours for this Bill and we have taken 1 hours 25 minutes. Nobody was on his legs on the last occasion. If nobody else wants to speak, I will call the Minister.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): I must congratulate that the Ministry, in their wisdom, had introduced this Wage Board which is a welcome measure.

The point I want to put forth before the House and the Minister is that this Wage Board recommendations which came into force in on 1.11.1969 are being implemented very slowly. In Orissa it was implemented in 1970 though it came into force on 1.11.1969. In some other States, it was implemented in 1972 and in some others in 1971. Therefore, if the Government and the labour Ministry wanted to confer some benefits on the working class, they should see to its implementation uniformly from the year 1969. Now, it is going to come to an end this year. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Minister that if the Government really wanted to give some benefit to the working class, why should it not be from 1969 when it came into force? That is one appeal to the Minister.

I know the Government may say that the sugar industry has not the capacity to pay the arrears. You know the Government itself has conferred some more benefits on the sugar industry and even the prices have been increased and they have got more profits this year.

It is necessary that the workers should get the benefit. In some States it was implemented one year after that and in some States two years after that. What I would submit is that the workers should get the benefit from the year when it came into force, that is to say, from 1st November, 1961.

It has been a matter of commitment with us in the All India Congress Committee and the Government that the sugar industry should be nationalised. Even the Minister with all of us was very much enthused in the Bombay session over the decision to nationalise sugar industry. I would request the Minister, in view of this commitment, that the Government should take up this matter very seriously and take immediate steps in this regard. They should go into the matter without any further delay.

Also the Minister should place before the House the Bhargava Committee's Report who have gone into the whole question. I would ask: why are you holding it back? I request that it should be placed before the House and the House should have opportunity to discuss this. Government should also give its mind to what extent they can accept this policy of the Congress to nationalise the sugar industry.

With these words I close.

I hope that the hon. Minister will reply to all the points which I have raised. Thanks you.

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar): Sir, the Agriculture Minister is here. The hon. Member has demanded the placing of the Bhargava Committee Report on the Table of the House. Let him reply.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will have your right reply. Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: (Serampore): It is a very important Bill concerning not only sugar factories. This relates to the whole policy of the Government. Wage Boards after Wage Boards have given recommendations. They are not implemented by factory owners Government had come forward saying that on this question they will make a legislation so that wage board awards will be made compulsory on such matters where it is recommended. Here in this case the recommendation was given on 8-7-1970 This is to be implemented from 1-11-69. In many cases I know the sugar mill owners did not implement it in spite of the repeated representation of trade unions They never, on their own, implemented it unless compelled by strike action or come other direct action by sugar factory employees In some cases this is implemented from 1970; in some cases from 1971 and in some cases from 1972. In Orissa there is one Raigada factory; where it has not yet been implemented where your Nandini Satpathi is the Chief Minister and Mr. Panda has brought the Bill. He is in alliance with the Government. But still it has not yet been implemented there

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I request that Dinen Babu should not try to break the alliance.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: I did not break: it broke of its own accord in West Bengal.

MR. DEPUEY-SPEAKER: I hope your alliance is not so bitter.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: So, my point is that the Minister must take very seriously. From 1969 this has to be implemented. But, the poor workers of Orissa are not getting that. Why cannot the arrears be paid to them? You are now bring forward some ordinance freezing the wage throughout the country. Now, the workers will not get their full Dearness Allowance. Fifty per cent of it will go into the pocket of Government On the other hand, the prices will go up. It is a clear case here that Government must bring in all the emplo r to-gether.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Bhattacharyya, how, does it go to the pocket of the Government?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: It does not either come to your pocket.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think the Government has only impounded this money. This money will not be used for the productive purpose. How does it go to the government pocket? You will kindly update your information.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: My next point is this. The other hon Member from the Congress Bench, Shri Panigrahi, a progressive Member from the Congress/Party, raised a very pertinent point Why don't you bring out that Bhargava Committee Report? Why are you suppressing that report? If that is brought out, certain facts will be revealed as to how these sugar tycoons are exploiting the sugarcane growers the workers as well as the consumers to the tune of Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs. Sugarcane growers and millowners do not pay any interest year after year. The Government is callous and they do not take any action. The consumers are exploited, the workers are exploited. They create scarcity which is not real but it is created by the sugar barons and the government goes on merrily; they do not take effective steps to stop this plunder practised by the sugar magnates. That is why the question comes, why don't you nationalise the sugar industry as a whole? I have seen that

in some cases of the sick-mills, the Government comes forward and applies that Act—Industries Development and Regulations Act and even takes over the management of those sick mills by paying for the junk machines crores of rupees. Actually their cost will not be more than Rs. 40 to 50 lakhs. They spent a lot in U.P. elections.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): Their depreciation is zero.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Still, the Sugar millowners, whenever they face the people in election, pay crores of rupees to the Congress. That is why you are hesitant to bring forward the Bill to nationalise the sugar industry.

SHRI G VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash): Why should it not be left to the cooperative society?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: No please. It should be nationalised. Let us experimeht it. Let them do this first.

My point is very very clear that nationalisation alone will help us because the international price of sugar is going higher and higer. The sugar factory owners are getting more money by exporting the sugar they are enjoying the full benefits. The nation is getting nothing. I find these sugar factory owners are being allowed to sell sugar at an exhorbitant price in every part of the country and they are making crores of rupees as their annual profits. That is another reason why so much black-money has got amassed. You will not be able to solve this problem of black-money by issuing ordinances. So, you should ask these sugar factory owners to implement the recommendations with retrospective effect. My humble suggestion is please do not deprive the workers and the cane-growers and do not allow the sugar magnates to fleece our country as they are doing now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Before we proceed further may I point out the scope of the Bill is only in respect of certain recommendations of the Wage Board relating to the wages of the workers in the sugar industry. We need not go into the whole question of sugar industry as to how it is being exploited and what should be the policy. That is a much bigger question.

Now, I would like to know the pleasure of the Houses. I see the slips keep on swelling in front of me and we have a little time. We had allotted thirty-five minutes out of which 15 minutes are already over and we have 20 minutes more allotted time left What you want to do? If you take five minutes each then we may manage and exceed the time fixed by just a little.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Why don't you extend the time?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The other Bills are here and, as such, some, kind of a *via media* a balance, has to be struck.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad). Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the five minutes which you have given to me quite sufficient to express my ideas.

Sir, sugar industry is a prosperous industry and this prosperity goes to cane-growers and also to the labourers working in the factories. For the last several years we have seen the workers in sugar industry have never gone on strike. They have been

[Shri M. Ram Gopal Reddy]

working hard. That was why our production which was only 10 lakh tonnes in 1951-52 went up to 45 lakh tonnes, which means an increase of 450 per cent. This is certainly due to the Government policies, the workers' loyalty and the canegrowers' effort to grow more cane. So far as the sugar magnates are concerned, they have been making a lot of money. After the wage board award was given in 1969, almost all the co-operative sugar factories, with the except of one or two, almost 135 in number have faithfully implemented the wage board recommendations. When even the Government are implementing the Pay Commission's report, I do not know why the sugar factories, especially the private ones, are not implementing it: If they are not going to implement it, there is the danger that the workers may go on strike. Of course, I have been speaking always against strikes, but on this occasion, if I would say that if these sugar factories do not implement the wage board recommendations made in 1969, the workers can legitimately go on strike and they have got the right to go on strike.

Now, the crushing season is coming, and from October, many factories are going to start crushing: It is the duty of the Government to see that the sugar factories which have been evading payment of wages according to the wage board recommendations must be forced to pay the same; otherwise, the licence to start crushing must be stopped: If they still do not listen to this, Government should take over such sugar factories: After all there were many eminent persons on the wage board, from the side of labour, the canegrowers, the industrialists etc. In spite of that, we find that the recommendations are not being implemented. I am also the chairman of a co-operative sugar factory and I know that these recommendations are very very mild. When the sugar factories are making very huge profits, why should they not pay the wages to the labourers as recommended?

Therefore, I would request the Deputy Minister who is very promising and who is very dynamic to see that the amount is paid with retrospective effect and with interest at the rate of 12 per cent. This interest is also very important. because they have no right to keep that money with them and utilise it elsewhere for their own profit. The workers haev already lost heavily, and moreover, as we have seen, the value of the rupee has also been eroded. For the last five years we have seen that the real value of the money has gone down Therefore, the interest must be calculated and must be paid before the start of the season. If any factory refuse to pay, Government should immediately take it over, so that the workers may work very hard and may reach a production of 70 lakh tonnes, during the Fifth Plan. We are making very huge profits when we export sugar for the first time, and we are getting about Rs. 5000 per tonne or Rs. 500 per bag. This is a very good season and we should not miss this opportunity to increase production.

*SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support whole-heartedly the Bill of Shri D. K. Panda and wish to say a few words on the same. The principal provision of the Bill is that the recommendations of the Wage Board should be made statutorily binding on the sugar-mill owners so that they could be implemented. The central purpose of this Bill is that the sugar-mill owners must be brought within the ambit of a statute, which will enable the Government to proceed against such sugar-mill owners who do not implement the recommendations of the Wage Board.

Sir, the first Wage Board was set up some time in 1957 and it took 14 long years for the Government to realise that the Wage Board recommendations were not going to be implemented expeditiously. During this period of 14 years, the sugar-mill owners had been fleecing the workers, the consumers and the sugar cane growers. The sugar-mill owners have been able to augment their production substantially with the sweat and blood of the workers who have not been paid their legitimate dues. The price of sugar has been going up at regular intervals which the consumers pay through their nose. The sugar-mill owners have also been deceiving the sugar-cane growers. The present arrears due from the sugar-mill owners to the sugarcane growers amount to about Rs. 54 crores. I am sorry to say that the Government continue to remain a silent spectator of this kind of multi-pronged exploitation of the sugar-mill owners.

Sir, there are about 238 sugar factories in our country. with an installed capacity of 44 lakh tones. It is anticipated that during 1973-74 the production would be about 40 lakh tonnes. In this year. the total foreign exchange earning on account of export of sugar has been estimated to be Rs. 50 crores. The pathetic plight of lakhs of sugar workers whose labour brings to the public exchequer Rs 50 crores in foreign exchange requires to be probed by the Government of the day. In the cement industry and in machine-building industries the recommendations of the Wage Boards have been implemented But the condition of sugar-workers seems to be worse than that of the landless agricultural labour in our country. Barring the sugar workers, other industrial workers get housing, medical facilities etc. But the Government seem to be unconcerned about the sugar-workers in this country.

I want to impress upon the Government that whatever has been stated about the sugar workers is not the political pleading of Opposition Party members here. The hon. Members belonging to the ruling party, while participating in the discussion on this Bill during last session, have condemned the sluggish attitude of the Government so far as the problems of the sugar workers are concerned. Shri B. V. Naik Shri Narsingh Narain Pandey, Shri Darbara Singh and some others have categorically stated that the Government's sugar policy is wrong. They have specifically pointed out that the condition of the workers in the sugar industry needs great improvement. They have stressed that if the Government wanted more production they should give greater incentives to the sugar workers. All the pleas of the ruling party members have fallen on the deaf ears of the Government I have no hesitation in saying that the Government are in league with the sugar-mill owners so far as fleecing of the sugar workers is concerned. I make bold to say that the Government are guilty of being partisan in this matter. There is widening gap before profession and practice of this Government.

From the year 1969 onwards we have been hearing on the Congress Party platforms that the sugar industry would be nationalised. In the recent Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, most of the Congress Ministers both at the Central and State level were emphasising the emergent need for nationalising the sugar industry. They were all shedding crocodile tears for the sugar workers. But the Government of India have not moved their little finger towards nationalising the sugar industry. I will not be out of the mark if I say that the ruling party and the

[Shri J. Matha Gowder]

Government do not want to annoy the sugar barons who are their backbone in the matter of meeting their election expenses. After all, the workers can only produce something more. The workers can never substitute the sugar-mill owners in financing the Congress Party elections. This explains the halting half-hearted and hesitant steps being taken by the Government either in resolving the problems of the sugar workers or in helping the sugarcane growers to get back huge sums of money due from the sugar-mill owners

In Spetember, 1970 the Government constituted a high-level Commission to enquire into the sugar industry in a comprehensive manner. On 27-2-1974 this Commission has presented its well-considered Report to the Government. But so far the Government have not placed a copy of this Report on the Table of this House. I wonder what stands in the way of the Government discharging this legitimate and bounden duty. Is it because the Commission has recommended immediate nationalisation of sugar industry without compensation? In the second interim Report submitted by the Commission, the question of nationalisation of sugar industry has been dealt with by the Commission in great detail. But the Government have not yet broken their vow of silence on the recommendations of this Commission.

Sir, the position in the sugar industry has become so critical that, unless the industry is nationalised, the workers have no chance of getting their dues from the sugar-mill owners, who happen to be adepts in the art of deception all round: I am constrained to say that both the sugar workers and the sugarcane growers have been made the sacrificial goats for the election victory of the Congress Party.

You know, Sir, that the Government do not hesitate to issue Ordinances. During last inter-session as many as 9 Ordinances were issued. I would like to know why the Government have never thought it appropriate to promulgate a presidential Ordinance for the recovery of arrears of Rs. 54 crores due to the sugarcane growers and also for the implementation of the Wage Board recommendations so far as the sugar workers are concerned.

I am sure that ruling party members will unhesitatingly agree with me in my demand for immediate nationalisation of sugar industry. If the Government feel that this question will take some more time at least it must be ensured that the sugar workers get their wages as per the recommendations of the Wage Board, and if necessary the Government must introduce in this very session a Bill for this purpose. It is not merely the demand of the Opposition Party Members. Shri Darbara Singh, who is a member of the All India Congress Committee, has been demanding this. I hope that the Government will at least pay heed to the demand of its own Party Members.

Supporting the Bill of Shri D. K. Panda, I conclude my speech.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Sir, I want to raise only two points. The wage board recommendations made in 1969 have still not been implemented. We do not know why they are delaying it. Whatever legislation we pass, we are not seriously implementing them. That is the real reason for the set-back. We are doing well but now and then we are forgetting our responsibilities to implement our policies and Acts. Our friend from Bengal referred to the Rayaguda sugar factory in Orissa There is a similar unit in my constituency also. They brought some scrapped factory from somewhere to

my district, with a capital of 25 lakhs. They have taken deposits from the farmers to take the cane. When we asked them to convert the deposits into share capital, they never agreed. It costs now Rs. 3 crores. I am surprised to hear that the Government has given permission for the expansion of the capitalist companies without any policy or basis or public knowledge. In my district there are nearly 70,000 acres where cooperative sugar factories are coming up. It took me 14 years to get a licence for a sugar factory I failed thrice, although I was a members of Parliament from 1952-58. It is only under the Government of Shrimati Indira Gandhi that I got the licence and it is going to be commissioned. I am seriously implementing the wage board recommendations. Why was the Government not asking the other factories also to implement them? One unit has been purchased by a *karodpati* from Madura in South India. He has got several mills there. He has got sufficient money to implement the wage board award. But, instead, he has given up the factory. Government have now taken over that sugar factory and auctioned it to realise some tax arrears. He has to give Rs. 10 lakhs to 15 lakhs to the farmers. I am fighting with the Government and the company to get the farmers their due This is a unit started by a trust and yet this is the fate of the farmers and the labourers in the sugar industry.

We are expecting every day that the government will come forward with a policy of nationalisation or at least cooperativisation so that the workers and farmers will become the proprietors. Why should the government think that nationalisation will result in loss? By nationalisation you will have marketing, distribution, price fixation everything in your hands. Take the case of the existing sugar mill owners. They start in small way and make a lot of money.

I understand that the report of the Bhargáva Committee, on which the Government have spent nearly Rs. 20 lakhs, has gone to the Cabinet. The Cabinet should take a decision immediately. Where is the necessity for delay in this. The nationalisation of the sugar industry is in accordance with our party programme and also the policy of the Government. So, I want the Minister in charge of the sugar industry to implement it at an early date.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मुरेना) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, यह जो बिल हमारे सामने विचार के लिए आया है श्री पडा जी की तरफ से मैं उस का स्वागत करता हू और सरकार से यह निवेदन करता हूं कि इसे तत्काल स्वीकार कर ले। ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार यदि इसे स्वीकार नही करेगी तो इस का मतलब है सरकार के नेत्रो से साफ दिखाई नही देता। सामने बैठे हुए बन्धु शुगर उद्योग को ऐसा मान कर चल रहे है कि यह हमे दूध देने वाली गाय है । जब जब आवश्यकता पड़ती है उस के मालिकों से भारी मात्रा मे पैसा लिया जाता है । इसीलिए इन की गोपनीय साठ गाठ इन के साथ है और इसी कारण जो वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिश है उसे स्वीकार नही किया जा रहा है । मेरा यह कहना है कि क्यिन चीनी उद्योग के मालिको ने इस सिफारिश को लागू नही किया है क्या सरकार ऐसा कोई कानून बनाएगी कि जिस समय यह सिफारिश आई है तब से इस को जिन्होने स्वीकार नही किया उन को कड़े से कड़ा दण्ड दिया जाय आर्थिक दण्ड नही पैसा तो बहुत है उन के पास चाहे जब दे देंगे जेल की सजा उन को दी

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (आरा)

आप ऐसा कोई कानून आप उन के लिए बनाएंगे ? और यह जल्दी से जल्दी लागू हो ताकि इस का लाभ काफी लोगों को मिले मजदूरों को मिले वर्मा जी कि मुस्कराहट से मैं समझा हूं कि उन के दिल में मजदूरों के प्रति बड़ी दया है और वह कहा जाता है कि यह जो श्रम विभाग है यह मजदूर कल्याण करने वाला विभाग है। हर मजदूर का लाभ इस से होता है । परन्तु यह हालत देख कर तो ऐसा लगता है कि हाथी के दांत दिखाने के और खाने के और है। इसलिए मेरा यह कहना है कि जिन मालिको ने इसे अभी तक ठीक तरीके से लागू नहीं किया है उन के खिलाफ कड़ी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए । आज मजदूरों का शोषण किया जा रहा है । कितने रूपों में इस शुगर उद्योग मे उनका शोषण किया जा रहा है। और नाना प्रकार से शोषण किया जा रहा है। मजदूर किसी पद पर काम करता है उसे वेतन किसी पद का दिया जाता । ऐसे हजारों केस शुगर उद्योग के अन्दर हैं कि उस से काम लिया जाता है बड़े पद का और वेतन दिया जाता है छोटे पद का । जैसा काम लिया जाय उन से वेतन भी उन को वैसा मिले इस की व्यवस्था देखना भी आप का काम है । आज काफी उद्योगों की हालत खराब है । मैं यह नहीं कहता कि सभी उद्योग अच्छे होंगे । परन्तु खराबी का कारण क्या है ? क्या मालिक की नीयत अच्छी नहीं है या उस का मैनेजमेंट अच्छा नही है जिस के कारण खराब है ? उसे ठीक किया जा सकता है । मैं इस के पक्ष में नहीं हूं न मेरा दल इस के पक्ष में है कि इनका राष्ट्रीयकरण कर लिया जाय। मेरा कहना है कि अगर उद्योग खराब हालत में चल रहा तो वहां जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं उनको उस का हिस्सेदार बनाया जा सकता है । सहकारिता के आधार पर वह उद्योग चलना चाहिए। उस के अन्दर सारे हिस्सेदार मजदूर हो। मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं। आज भी बड़े पैमाने पर हमारे काश्तकारों को पैसा इन शुगर मिलों के मालिकों ने दिया नहीं है। अब के किस किस की शिकायत करेंगे ? कहा जाता है कि आप को पैसा चाहिए तो रुपये पर चवन्नी कटेगी । दो रुपया लेना है तो 25 प्रतिशत उस का कट कर आप को मिलेगा। इस प्रकार से काश्तकारो का शोषण किया जा रहा है । मै जानता हूं कि यह श्रम मंत्री का विषय नही है लेकिन कृषि मंत्री भी बैठे हुए है इसलिए मैं उन का ध्यान इधर खीचना चाहता हूं । मध्य प्रदेश उड़ीसा आदि मे इस से बहुत खराब दशा है उन की ओर मैं समझता हू कि काफी प्रदेशो के अन्दर ऐसी दशा है क्योंकि सरकार का ठीक प्रकार का अंकुश नही है इस उद्योग पर वह अंकुश लगाना नहीं चाहती। मैं पहले ही कह चुका हूं और यहा सदन में अनेक बार यह बात उठी है देश मे जब लोक सभा के चुनाव थे तो उस समय 20 करोड़ रुपया इनसे लिया और इसीलिए सब के खिलाफ कार्यवाही नहीं की। अभी यू० पी० के चुनाव के अवसर पर बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर पैसा उन से लिया है। ये बातें यहां आई हैं और इसीलिए शुगर मिलों के मालिकों से सांठ गांठ की जाती है वे मैं जानते हैं कि

यह ऐसा उद्योग है कि अगर इन से कहेंगे कि वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशो को लागू करो तो वे कहेंगे कि उस से अधिक पैसा लगेगा। मे कहेंगे कि अच्छा, जल्दी से जल्दी आपको पैसा चाहिए तो हम को पैसा दीजिए हम आप को इतनी छूट देते है 70 परसेंट आप चीनी बाहर बेच सकते हैं। इस तरह से वे पैसा कमाते है। एक क्विंटल के 5 सौ रुपये लेते है जब कि कंट्रोल में 215 रुपये एक क्विंटल के मिलते है। तो इस तरह से उन्हें इतनी छूट दी जाती है और इसी कारण आज सरकार उस ओर ठीक प्रकार से ध्यान नही देती या उन को छेडना नही चाहती। इन को ऐसा मानती है कि यह मधुमक्खी का छता है इन को छेडेंगे तो हमे खा जायेगी।

शुगर उद्योग मे हम काफी पैसा कमाते हैं। बाहर भी शुगर भेजते हैं भारी मात्रा मे और विदेशो से हमे पैसा मिलता है और हम और कमा सकते है। ठीक प्रकार से इस की व्यवस्था हो तो हम अधिक शुगर बाहर भी भेज सकते है लेकिन यह कहा का न्याय है कि यहा का व्यक्ति जो शुगर पैदा करता है वह तो 5 रुपये किलो शुगर खरीद कर खाये और बाहर 70 पैसे किलो मे भेजें? यह कौन सा सामाजिक न्याय है। हो सकता है कि सरकार की कोई अपनी व्यवस्था होगी। लेकिन मेरा कहा है कि यह ठीक नही है। इन्ही शब्दो के साथ मेरा कहना है कि ठीक प्रकार से वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशो लागू हो और जो भार्गव कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है उस को लाने में हिचकिचाना नही चाहिए। मैं कृषि मंत्री से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि आप तत्काल इस को लाएं। हम उस पर चर्चा करें और आप नये मिनिस्टर बने है, आप का वह नाम होगा कि आप याद करेंगे। सब लोग आप के गुण गाएंगे और आपको दुआ भी देंगे। इसलिए आप उस को लाएं ताकि हम उस पर चर्चा कर सकें। उसे दबाने मे कोई सार नही है। लेकिन मुझे ऐसा भी संकेत लगता है कि अगर आप ने लाने का प्रयत्न किया तो कहीं आप का पत्ता न कट जाये।

इन्ही शब्दो के साथ में बिल का समर्थन करता हू और वर्मा जी से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि बिना सकोच, हिचकिचाहट और बिना किसी चर्चा के इस को स्वीकार कर लें उन को भी लोग तारीफ करेंगे।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI Balgovind Verma): I have listened very carefully to the speeches made by the hon. Members when the Bill was discussed in this House on 3rd May 1974 and also to-day.

The sole object of Shri D K Panda's Bill is to make the recommendations of the Sugar Wage Board statutorily enforceable on the industries. They laid stress on this point and I am told that the Wage Board submitted its report in February 1970 and the Government's resolution thereon was issued on 7th July 1970. The Board was a non-statutory body and the implementation of its recommendations has to be secured mainly through persuasion and advice. The State Governments were in charge of the work of implementation as they are the appropriate governments in regard to this industry under the Industrial Disputes Act. So, the slow pace of implementation

[Shri Balgovind Verma]

and also in phases is one important factor which may have possibly led to the introduction of this Bill by Shri D. K. Panda in July 1971.

Since then many developments have taken place in regard to this sugar industry. I may tell the House that in December 1971, the then Labour Minister, Shri Khadilkar wrote to the State Labour Ministers requesting them to take effective steps to ensure the implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations. I do not have the details and uptodate statistics to show the number of sugar mills which have implemented the Wage Board recommendations and those which have not implemented them. I have reasons to believe that the present position of implementation is by and large very satisfactory.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Nobody has paid the arrears.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA: I might mention that demands have been made or revision of the existing wage structure in the sugar industry. In this connection we had meetings with the representatives of the employers and the workers on 27th November 1973 and 6th December 1973 In both these meetings which was attended by almost all major trade unions, there were no complaints about the non-implementation of th' Wage Board's recommndaions. Today, I am really very much surprised when Shri Dinen Bhatacharyya has brught to our notice that one sugar mill at Raigarh has not implemented the Wage Board recommendations...

SHRI D. K. PANDA: That is also the case even in Andhra.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA: In Andhra, Shri Suryanarayana has pointed out a different thing that one mill is running into arrears of Rs 15 lakhs to the cultivators on account of non-payment of price for sugar cane supplied to the mill and net that it has not paid wages to the workers.

An. Hon. Member: When was it implemented?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA: That is quite a different thing. I may tell you that these things were never brought to our notice even when we held discussions with the representatives of the trade unions. Now, that it has been brought to our notice, we will certainly take up the matter with the State Government to see that these recommendations have been carried out.

There were no complaints about non-implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations but there were strong demands for the revision of the wage structure through a bipartite committee. This was the emphasis which was laid by all the trade union leaders and they also wanted grant of interim relief.

A demand was also made for the payment of a suitable retainer allowance because I know in most of the mills this retainer allowance is not being paid, particularly, in the South and elsewhere. I am glad to inform the House that agreed conclusions have been reached both in regard to the payment of interim relief and retainer allowance. All this means a substantial benefit to the workers. So, this agreement has been reached so far as this matter is concerned.

Then, Sir, as regards the interim relief, I may say, this was to be enforced only up to the 30th June, 1974. We have written to the State Governments about this and requesting them to advise the sugar mills to give the interim relief for July also and to set it off against the dearness allowance

scheme for the month of July to be computed under the wage Board's recommendations. I am sure they are paying this amount to the workers also. It has been suggested by some speakers that some machinery should be set up to revise the present wage structure for the sugar industry. I would like to mention the name of Mr. Narsingh Narain Pandey who specially stressed this point. This question is being considered by the Government. A decision may be expected very shortly.

Then, certain suggestions were made by Shri Pandaji, Shri Narsingh Narain Pandey, Shri Darbara Singh, Shri Ialnue Sambhali, Shri Panigrahi and Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya. Most of the Members who have spoken have laid stress that the sugar industry should be nationalised I regret, I am not in a position to deal with this issue since the matter concerns the Ministry of Agriculture. but I am sure they are looking into the matter and they will do what is necessary. It is under active consideration of the Government. So, now all that I can say is that the situation which is sought to be remedied by Shri Panda's Bill no longer exists and it does not require the enactment of any special legislation and more so in the context of the increasing emphasis on bipartite settlement of wage matters, the need for statutory support for implementation of Wage Board recommendations does not arise at all. Of course there may be some stray cases of non-implementation here and there and if I am informed about it, I assure you, I will take a necessary action in the matter and I will request the State Governments to take suitable action in fhe matter.

In view of this, I am sure that Shri Pandaji will withdraw the Bill.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : जो लोग जिस पद पर काम करते हैं उस पद के अनुसार वेतन नही दिया जाता कम दिया जाता है । अगर कोई 3 00 रुपया वेतन पाने वाला है तो उस को 150 रुपया दिया जाता है—इस के लिये आप क्या कर रहे है ?

श्री बालगोविन्द वर्मा : ऐसी कोई शिकायत हमारे पास नही आई है । अगर आप कोई शिकायत लायेंगे तो जरूर देखेंगे और उस पर कार्यवाही भी की जायेगी ।

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डेय (मंदसौर) : मैंने मध्य प्रदेश की दो शुगर मिलो—जावरा शुगर मिल और महिदपुर शुगर मिल— के बारे मे कहा था ये मिले वेज बोर्ड के अनुसार काम नही कर रही है आप ने कहा था कि स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट को रेफर करेंगे, लेकिन स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट कुछ नही कर रही है । मै चाहता हू कि मत्री महोदय इन मिलो के बारे मे स्पष्ट कहे कि स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट से कह कर करवाये अन्यथा स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट प्रेस करने वाली नही है । स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट की उस बारे मे हालत खराब है ।

श्री बालगोविन्द वर्मा : ऐसा तो नही है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय ऐसा हो रहा है वहा वेज बोर्ड लागू नही है ।

16 hours.

SHRI SHIVAJIRAO S. DESHMUKH (Parbhani): I would like to draw the attention of the Labour Minister to the fact that there are many factories in the joint sector which are

[Shri Shivajirao S. Deshmukh]

in arrears of the Second Wage Board awards. They are yet to implement the wage board award. I wish to draw the attention of the Minister to this fact that there are thousands and thousands of agricultural workers basically but they are declared as casual workers. In Maharashtra, there are sugarcane workers. They have been declared as factory workers and they are subjected to the jurisdiction of the wage boards. There are lakhs of rupees remaining in arrears.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister will take due note of it and necessary action will be taken by him.

SHRI D. K PANDA (Bhanjanagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members of the Treasury Bench as well as the other side for taking part in the debate There is absolutely no difference of opinion for effective implementation of the recommendations of the Second Wage Board. But, I got a reply from the hon. Minister which still remains unsatisfactory reply. The point is how this can be effectively implemented with retrospective effect. That is a simple question. The hon. Minister could have come forward with the answer if at all they were serious in implementing the reommendations either by the method of persuasion or by requesting those sugar tycoons at least. By that process, to a certain extent, have they implemented these recommendations from 1st November, 1969? That is the crucial date from which they come into effect. My friend, Shri Narsingh Narain Pande and several other Members have categorically stated that in many sugar industries, especially in U.P., Orissa and in M.P. they have not implemented from that date from which they were directed to implement the recommendations. What does the Government do? They simply requested those industries to implement them by the method of persuasion.

Now, what I wish to bring to the notice of the Minister is that if they are not paid from 1st November, 1969 why should they not be paid at least from 1st November, 1970? Throughout the country, statewise, if you take into consideration the specific circular issued by the very Cooperative Federation of Sugar Industries, that says this will come into force from 1st November, 1970 and it will be implemented. Even in cooperative sugar industries, in certain cases—I have given an example—it was implemented from 1971 only and not from 1970. With regard to this aspect of the matter, I want to know whether Government have called for the reports from the State Governments This question has to be answered by the Minister to the satisfaction of all the Members present. My second point is this. If you have implemented it, that may be a general implementation. I want that should be a specific implementation. My friend from Maharashtra said that casual workers have been totally neglected. They could not be brought within the purview of the Second Wage Board reommendations. I want to know whether these wage arrears are going to be collected by making these recommendations statutorily binding on them. Or will the Government go on making only a request or go on begging those sugar tycoons to implement them. They have already got enough money.

The hon Member Shri Suryanarayana has made certain point with regard to expansion of ertain sugar industries. Some sick mills have been given crores of rupees. They have been given development rebate, excise duty rebate etc., etc. running to crores of rupees. Shri Suryanarayana has made a point regarding the cost of levy sugar as worked out by the Tariff Commission. What is it?

The Government policy itself has increased the price of sugar—not with regard to levy sugar alone. The sugar magnates are creating black-money because you have allowed them to sell 30 per cent in the open market. So, they have been given so many opportunities to fleece the consumers. They are also allowed to keep an arrear to the tune of Rs. 52.25 crores regarding cane price. All these things have given them a good handle to exploit the entire nation and bring about crisis in the sugar field. Therefore, I want to know why this should not be made statutorily binding. I want the hon. Minister to give an assurance to the effect that they will bring forth a Bill—in this Session itself—because it is only adding one line that this should be statutorily binding.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has already said it is not necessary.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Inspite of all the declarations against the tycoons till today we have not taken any steps to punish them. Why rupees seven to eight crores should be left in the hands of sugar barons against whom the Congress is committed to nationalise. Therefore, they should not again write to the State Governments as it is not within their powers to see that it is implemented. The State Governments can merely persuade the tycoons and mere persuasion would not do. Therefore, I demand that immediately another Bill be brought by the Government in this direction.

A calculation has been made and it has been found that these tycoons including sugar barons are in arrears to the tune of Rs. 833 crores on account of tax and electricity charges, etc. Altogether, it would come to about Rs. 2000 crores. But we have allowed them all this money and now the wage freeze ordinance has also been brought forward. So, my appeal to the hon. Minister will be that at least the retaining allowance which had been promised should be given. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Why can he not round up his arguments?

SHRI D. K. PANDA: The hon. Minister himself had referred to the retaining allowance. The decision taken at the bipartite negotiating committee has not been implemented, though it was a decision taken under the chairmanship of the hon. Minister at that particular meeting of the trade union representatives. At that time, there was no occasion to bring up all these points because the main point was that the sugar workers were paid very poorly and the wage level was the lowest so far as the factory workers were concerned. Thus, the question of the revision of the wage became a prominent thing at that time. The retaining allowance was to continue till June, 1974, but that period has already expired. Therefore, I now demand that the bipartite machinery for negotiating on wage revision has to be brought into existence once again.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for implementation of the recommendations of the Second Wage Board for Sugar Industry in India and to make it statutory with a view to maintain industrial peace in sugar industry in the country, be taken into consideration.".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The motion is lost. Now, we shall take up the next Bill.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: May I make one appeal? I seek your protection, Sir. . .

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Rather seek his protection

SHRI D K PANDA I do not want to make a speech **

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER This would not go on record I have declared that the motion is lost and still he is rising to speak He should have done it before I have declared already that the motion is lost It would be irregular if he speaks now

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16 14 hours.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(*Amendment of articles 19 and 326*) by Dr Laxminarain Pandeya

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय: (मंदसौर) मैं प्रस्ताव* करता हूं कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाये। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय मेरे प्रस्तुत विधेयक के द्वारा संविधान में संशोधन करते हुए वर्तमान मतदान की आयु को 21 वर्ष से घटा कर 18 वर्ष करने का प्रावधान किया गया है। इसी सदन में संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19 और अनुच्छेद 326 में संशोधन प्रस्तुत किये गये हैं।

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16 15 hrs.

[DR HENRY AUSTIN *in the Chair*]

वर्तमान कानूनी प्रावधानों के अनुसार हम ने वयस्क मताधिकार के सिद्धान्त को स्वीकार किया है और उस के आधार पर हम अपनी चुनाव प्रणाली को चलाते चले आ रहे हैं लेकिन आज ऐसी परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई है जिसकी वजह से इस सम्बन्ध में संशोधन करना आवश्यक हो गया है। केवल भारत में ही नहीं बल्कि संसार के विभिन्न देशों में आज चुनाव प्रणाली में एवं मतदान की आयु में परिवर्तन की मांग की गई और विभिन्न देशों में इसी संदर्भ में मताधिकार की आयु 21 वर्ष से घटा कर 18 वर्ष करने का प्रावधान किया है। हमारे देश में भी समय समय पर इस प्रकार की मांग उठती रही है जिस की इस सदन में भी चर्चा हुई है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि सरकार ने इस बारे में अभी तक गम्भीरता से विचार नहीं किया है।

आज हमारे युवा-वर्ग में असंतोष है जिसके कई कारण हो सकते हैं किन्तु मतदान में उन्हें हिस्सेदार न बनाना भी एक कारण है। वे भी मतदान के अधिकारी और शासनतंत्र में भागी होना चाहते हैं। लेकिन शायद वर्तमान शासन में बैठे लोग यह पसन्द नहीं करते कि युवा लोग आ कर यहां स्थान ग्रहण करें और इस लिए यह मांग बार-बार टाली जाती रही है, यद्यपि चर्चा के दौरान शासन की ओर से यह जरूर स्वीकार किया गया है कि हम इस विषय पर विचार कर रहे हैं, हम इस पर सोचेंगे आदि।

मेरा निवेदन है कि इस बारे में ज्यादा सोच-विचार की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है, किसी लम्बे-चौड़े निर्णय की भी आवश्यकता नहीं है। स्वयं मंत्री महोदय ने इसी सदन में एक चर्चा के उत्तर में कहा कि हमें किसी प्रकार के बहुत बड़े संशोधन लाने की आवश्य-

**Not concluded

Moved with the recommendation of the President.

कता नही होगी और इस मे कोई कठिनाई नहीं होगी, हमे केवल संविधान के अनुच्छेद 326 में संशोधन करना पड़ेगा। मै स्मरण दिलाना चाहता हू कि उस के बाद दो वर्ष की अवधि बीत गई है । मै समझता था कि सरकारी पक्ष की ओर से इस आशय का संशोधन प्रस्तुत किया जायेगा, लेकिन ऐसा नही किया गया और यही कारण है कि मुझे यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत करना पडा ।

आज स्थिति यह है कि 18 वर्ष की आयु का व्यक्ति कानूनी तौर पर राजस्व या सम्पत्ति के लेन देन के मामले मे बालिग समझा जाता है । यहा तक कि 18 वर्ष की आयु का व्यक्ति पराये घर की लड़की को ला सकता है अर्थात् शादी कर सकता है उसे जीवन भर का साथी बना सकता है । पूरा भविष्य उस पर निर्भर कर सकता है । लेकिन उस को केवल पाच वर्ष के लिये प्रतिनिधि बनाने के लिए वोट का अधिकार प्राप्त नही है । जहा तक विदेशो का सम्बन्ध है, वहा मतदान की आयु और मैजारिटी की आयु में अन्तर नही है जबकि हमारे यहां जो व्यवस्था है उस के अनुसार मतदान की आयु और मैजारिटी की आयु में अन्तर रखा गया है । यह अन्तर अस्वाभाविक और कृत्रिम है और इस लिए मै समझता हूं कि इस अन्तर को दूर करना आवश्यक है ।

हमारे विभिन्न कानूनो मे जैसे इडियन मैजारिटी एक्ट, कान्ट्रेक्ट एक्ट एविडेंस एक्ट, गार्डियन्ज एंड वार्ड्ज एक्ट, और सिनेमेटोग्राफ, एक्ट में, एडल्ट या मेजर की परिभाषा के अन्तर्गत 18 वर्ष की आयु के व्यक्ति को बालिग समझा या माना गया है। फिर मेरी समझ मे नही आता है कि 18 वर्ष की आयु के व्यक्ति को वोट का अधिकार क्यों नही दिया जाता है । जो व्यक्ति 18 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त कर चुका है उस को शारीरिक और मानसिक दृष्टि से सक्षम माना जाता है । वह अपने हित-अहित का विचार कर के सभी प्रकार के लेन देन कर सकता है और अदालत मे उस की गवाही समर्थ्यवान या प्रामाणिक समझी जाती है । लेकिन उस को वोट का अधिकार पाने के अयोग्य समझा जाता है । मै समझता हू कि आज की परिस्थिति मे यह उचित नही है। यह असगति ठीक होना जरूरी है ।

मै विभिन्न कानूनो के प्रावाधाना मे कुछ को उद्धृत करना चाहता हू । इडियन मैजारिटी एक्ट मे कहा गया है :

"Subject as aforesaid, every other person domiciled in India shall be deemed to have attained his majority when he shall have completed his age of 18 years and not before."

हिन्दू मैरिज एक्ट में कहा गया है कि :

"The bridegroom has completed the age of eighteen years"

सिनेमेटोग्राफ एक्ट मे "एडल्ट" की परिभाषा इस प्रकार की गई है

"An adult is a person who has completed 18 years of age."

हिन्दू मैरिज एक्ट मे इसी प्रकार की परिभाषा है और बम्बई के हिन्दू मैरिज एक्ट मे तो 18 वर्ष से भी नीचे जा कर 16 वर्ष कर दिया गया है । इस परिस्थति में सरकार को

[डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय]

इस प्रश्न पर गम्भीरता से पुनर्विचार करना चाहिए। जब 18 वर्ष के व्यक्ति को कानूनी तौर पर मेजर माना जाता है तो मैं पुनः दोहराना चाहता हू कि उस को मतदान के अधिकार से वंचित करने का कोई योग्य कारण नही प्रतीत होता है।

हमारी पेटीशन्ज कमेटी ने भी इस प्रश्न पर गम्भीरता से विचार किया है और इस बारे मे एक सिफारिश भी की है। मैं उस की सिफारिश के एक अश को उद्धृत करना चाहता हू। पेटीशन्ज कमेटी, फोर्थ लोक सभा, की नवी रिपोर्ट 1970, के पृष्ठ 84 पर रीकमेंडेशन 3.21 कहा गया है :

"The Committee have given earnest consideration to the demand of the petitioners for lowering the voting age from 21 years to 18 years Although there are strong arguments against the proposal such as immaturity of youth at that age and financial implications involved in handling a vastly increased electorate thereby, the Committee feel that there are no valid reasons for denying the right of vote to persons above the age of 18 years, particularly when for all other purposes of law, they are treated as majors and deemed competent to handle their affairs The Committee, therefore recommend that art 326 of the Constitution should be amended and voting age reduced from 21 years to 18 years".

यह पेटीशंस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है जो अपने ही सदन की एक कमेटी है। उस मे माननीय सदस्यो ने अपने विचार इस प्रकार व्यक्त किए हैं। इसमे किसी का नोट आफ डिसेंट भी नही है। सर्वसम्मत विचार आया है और यह रेकमेंड किया है, यह एक प्रकार का निर्देश है समिति का कि सरकार इस रेकमेंडेशन को लागू करे तथा आर्टिकल 326 के अन्दर संशोधन करे। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहूंगा कि आखिर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में उसने क्या विचार किया ? इसको अब तक अमल मे क्यो नही लाया गया ? कौन से ऐसे कारण थे कि इस को अमल मे नही लाया गया ? सरकार कुछ बहाने बताती है कि हमारे सामने कुछ कठिनाइया है, कुछ ऐसी कठिनाइया आ सकती है कि एलेक्शन कमीशन के ऊपर भारी बोझा पड़ेगा, एलेक्शन कमीशन इसके लिए तैयार होगा, अथवा नही ? हमारे यहा वोटरो की परसेंटेज बढ जायगी, वोटरो की सख्या बढ जायगी। हम मानते है कि हो सकता है कि वोटरो की सख्या 28 करोड से बढ कर 38 करोड हो सकती है। दस करोड की सख्या बढ सकती है। वर्तमान मे हमारे मतदान केन्द्रो की सख्या लगभग तीन साढे तीन लाख है, वह बढ कर के 5 लाख हो जायगी। इसमे लगने वाले कर्मचारी इस समय 20 लाख की सख्या मे है वे बढ कर 25 लाख कर्मचारी लग सकते है। लेकिन ये सारी व्यवस्थाये हो सकती है। हमने हर चुनाव के बाद में किसी न किसी प्रकार से पोलिंग बूथ्स की सख्या बढाई है, कर्मचारियो की सख्या बढ़ाई है। हमारे यहा का एलेक्टोरेट भी बढा है। इसलिये केवल इस आधार पर कि हमारे वोटर्स की सख्या बढ़ जायगी, हम कठिनाई मे पड़ जाएंगे, इस को न मानना उचित नही होगा और न इस प्रकार की दलीलों में कोई वजन ही है।

मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान यहां के जो चीफ एलेक्शन कमिश्नर रह चुके है श्री सेन वर्मा उन की एक बात की तरफ आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं

"The retiring Chief Election Commissioner, Mr. Sen Verma is confident that the Election Commission can cope with the increase in the electorate if the voting age was reduced to 18".

उन्होंने भी इस बात को साफ कहा है, एलेक्शन कमिशन का भी इसमे कोई दो मत नही है, उन की कोई भिन्न राय इस बारे में नही है । उन्होने और भी कहा है :

"He maintained that the lowering of voting age might create a vicious circle although the proposal was administratively feasible."

उन्होने जोर देकर कहा है कि यह एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिवली फीजिबल है । नान-फीजिबल नही कहा । उन्होने यह नही कहा कि हम यह कर नही सकते । जो कुछ अभी कहा है वह आपके एलेक्शन कमिश्नर की कही हुई बात है । उन्होने साफ कहा है कि वोटर्स की एज कम कर दी जाती है तो सरकार को कोई प्रशासनिक कठिनाई नही है । एलेक्शन कमीशन पूरी तरह तैयार है ।

इसी प्रकार से देश के विभिन्न विद्वानों की जो इसके बारे मे राय है उस की तरफ भी मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हू । दिल्ली यूनिवर्सिटी के वाइस-चांसलर डा० स्वरूप सिंह ने कहा है स्पष्ट रूप से कि अगर वोटर्स की एज कम कर दी जाये तो इसमे सरकार को कोई बाधा नही होनी चाहिए । आज की परिस्थिति की मांग है और उन्होने कहा है कि किसी प्रकार से युवा असन्तोष को कम करना है तो उसको कम करने की दिशा में भी यह एक बहुत बडा कदम होगा । मंत्री महोदय ज वर्ष है कि आखिर गुजरात के अन्दर क्या हुआ ? गुजरात के अन्दर हमने देखा कुछ दिन पहले कि सरकार की दुर्नीतियो के परिणामस्वरूप, सरकार की गलत आर्थिक योजनाओ के परिणामस्वरूप युवा-मन मे असन्तोष उभरा । आज का युवक अपने अधिकारो के प्रति सामाजिक क्रान्ति के लिए काफी सजग है । केवल गुजरात ही नही सभी स्थानो पर आज के युवा वर्ग के मन मे काफी असन्तोष है, बहुत काफी बेचैनी है, परेशानी है । वे चाहते है कि इस शासन तंत्र के अन्दर अपने आप को भागीदार बनाना । आजकल का युवक जो पढ लिख कर तैयार होता है कोई वकील तैयार होता है, कोई बैरिस्टर तैयार होता है, कोई इजीनियर बन कर निकलता है, कोई डाक्टर बनता है । वे सारे ऐसे लोग है जो वैज्ञानिक है, डाक्टर हैं, इजीनियर है जो प्रबुद्ध होकर निकलते हैं और हमारे देश की निधि है, देश की सम्पत्ति है । उनके अन्दर असन्तोष है, उनके लिये कोई योग्य स्थान नही जिसमे वह अच्छी तरह से अपनी जीविका निर्वाह कर सकें । इस प्रकार का उनके लिये कोई काम नही और इसके कारण देश का युवा वर्ग, देश का मस्तिष्क, देश का ज्ञान विदेशो में जा रहा है वे विदेशों मे ख्याति प्राप्त कर रहे है । लेकिन हमारे देश के अन्दर जो परिस्थिति खड़ी हो गई है

[डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाडेय]

उसमें आज का युवा सडको पर दर दर की ठोकरे खाता फिरता है। समाज के अन्दर उसके लिए कोई उचित स्थान नही, न हमारी सरकार उसको कोई स्थान देना चाहती है। और यही कारण है कि युवा-मन के अन्दर एक असन्तोष है। उस असन्तोष की लहर हमने गुजरात के अन्दर देखी है। गुजरात के अन्दर युवा वर्ग ने एक दिशा दी, एक क्रान्ति की लहर वहा आई। वही क्रान्ति की लहर बिहार से आज दिखाई दे रही है और उसके कारण भले ही आप जयप्रकाश नारायण को फासिस्टो के चगुल मे फसा हुआ कह दे, थोडी देर के लिए उन को मतिभ्रम कह दे, लेकिन इससे काम बनता नही है उनकी देशभक्ति निर्विवाद है। यह मागो का सारा वातावरण जो आज खडा हुआ है यह युवा मन के अन्दर जो असन्तोष है उसके कारण एक विद्रोह की भावना खडी हो गई है। वह इसलिए खडी हुई है कि आपने जो समाज के बीच मे, जनता के बीच मे जाकर आपके शब्दो मे समाजवाद। अर्थ-व्यवस्था का लाने का, समानता के अधिकार को देने का, रोटी रोजी के प्रश्न को हल करने का, वैज्ञानिको को, इंजीनियरो को उचित स्थान देने का जो वादा किया आज उसे करने मे आप असफल रहे है और इसी कारण आज उनके अन्दर एक असन्तोष है। यह असन्तोष की लहर केवल गुजरात तक ही नही देश के अनेक भागो मे आज फैली है। गुजरात मे रक्तपात हुआ, गुजरात मे लोग शहीद हुए, वह शहादत बेकार नही जायगी, आपकी खूनी गोलिया और आपकी पुलिस के डडे बिहार की क्रान्ति को रोक नही सकते। बिहार मे क्रान्ति आएगी और इस देश में क्रान्ति आएगी। युवा-वर्ग के साथ में इस प्रकार का काम, इसी प्रकार का खिलवाड आपने किया तो निश्चित रूप से इस देश के अन्दर इसी प्रकार की क्रान्ति आएगी। प्रदेश प्रदेश उठ कर खडा होगा और कहेगा कि हमें अधिकार दीजिए। उन्ही कुछ अधिकारो मे से एक अधिकार है जिसके बारे मे मैं कह रहा हू। उनकी आयु की माग के अनुसार वे 18 वर्ष जब पूरे कर लेते है तो उन्हे मतदान का अधिकार होना चाहिए। यह आज के युवा वर्ग की माग है। उस माग के सम्बन्ध मे डायरेक्टर टाटा इस्टीट्यट आफ सोशल साइसेज ने अपने विचार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा था कि युवा वर्ग के इस अधिकार को राका नही जाना चाहिए। उनका यह अधिकार देना चाहिए। इसी प्रकार डायरक्टर आफ इस्टीट्यूट आफ कास्टीट्यूशनल एन्ड पार्लियामेटरी स्टडीज है डा० सुभाष कश्यप उन्होने भी कहा है कि 18 वर्ष के युवको को मताधिकार देना जरूरी है और दूसरे जो बडे बडे विद्वान है उन्होने भी अपना परामर्श देते हुए साफ तौर से यही कहा है। युवा फेडरेशन जितने है उन्होने भी इस बात की माग की है और आप के ही काग्रेस दल के एक व्यक्ति ने ए आई सी सी मे इस प्रकार का प्रस्ताव लाने का प्रयत्न किया था। नान आफिशियल रेजाल्यूशन था, भले ही वह विचारार्थ नही आया लेकिन अभी जो आपका सेशन हुआ उसमे इस प्रकार का प्रस्ताव आने वाला था कि मतदान की आयु 21 वर्ष से घटा कर

18 वर्ष की जाय। इस बारे में कांग्रेस की तरफ से, कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की तरफ से सोशलिस्ट पार्टी की तरफ से, सभी राजनैतिक दलों की तरफ से इस तरह की मांग आई है और जनसंघ तो प्रारम्भ से ही इस प्रकार की मांग कर रहा है कि युवा वर्ग को इस प्रकार के अधिकार से वंचित नहीं करना चाहिए तथा इस अधिकार को मौलिक अधिकार में सम्मिलित किया जाना चाहिए।

हमारे देश के प्रसिद्ध अर्थ-शास्त्री श्री सी० डी० देशमुख ने भी अपने विचार पूना यूनिवर्सिटी के अन्दर विद्यार्थी समूह के मध्य दीक्षान्त समारोह के अवसर पर इसी प्रकार प्रकट किए हैं। उन्होंने कहा है

"Let me take the earliest opportunity of saying publicly that I am for the proposal to enfranchise all adults of 18 years and above"

मैं यह इसलिए उद्धृत कर रहा हूं कि हमारे देश के जो प्रबुद्ध कहे जाने वाले लोग हैं जो निर्विवाद कहे जा सकते हैं, जो प्रत्यक्ष राजनीति से सम्बन्ध नहीं रखते हैं या जो दलगत राजनीति से किसी प्रकार का सम्बन्ध नहीं रखते वे भी आज इसी प्रकार का विचार रखते हैं कि सारी परिस्थितियों को देखते हुए उन्हें यह अधिकार दिया जाना चाहिए। तमिल नाड के मुख्य मंत्री ने भी इसी प्रकार के विचार प्रकट किये हैं।

मैं आपको यह भी बताऊं कि अनेक देशों ने अपने यहां मतदान की आयु को घटाया है। हाल ही में फ्रांस ने लगभग सप्ताह पहले अपने यहां यह किया है। कैनाडा में हुआ है आस्ट्रिया में हुआ है नीदरलैंड में हुआ है। इन सभी देशों ने मतदान की आयु को काफी कम किया है और इसलिए कम किया है कि वहां इस के लिए काफी मांग थी। उन्होंने मतदान की आयु को घटा कर उन्होंने जनता की मांग को स्वीकार किया है। अपने यहां भी आज इस प्रकार की मांग है और मैं समझता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस मांग का स्वीकार करने में हिचकिचाएंगे नहीं।

मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान ज्वाइंट सेलेक्ट कमेटी आन एलेक्शन लॉ अमेंडमेंट की रेकमेंडेशन की तरफ भी ले जाना चाहता हूं। उनकी रेकमेंडेशन भी इस प्रकार की है। यह कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पार्ट 2 पेज 4, पैरा 8, 9, तथा 10 में पढ़ना चाहता हूं:

"Under the existing provision of Article 326 of the Constitution, a person who is not less than 21 years of age and is otherwise qualified is entitled to be registered as a voter

The question of voting age has in recent years assumed considerable significance It is well known that in Western democracies, the expansion of the franchise was slow, gradual and progressive Great Britain, for example, took almost a century to arrive at universal adult franchise"

इसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने भी एक बार सदन में चर्चा के समय उत्तर देते हुए यह बात कही थी। लेकिन वहां की परिस्थितियां भिन्न थीं। अपने देश की परिस्थितियां भिन्न हैं। आज जो 18 वर्ष की आयु पार करने वाला व्यक्ति है वह ज्यादा सक्षम है मानसिक दृष्टि से उस देश की अपेक्षा। मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर भी आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि वहां पर मतदान की आयु में और उसके बालिग होने की आयु में प्रारम्भ में तो काफी अन्तर नहीं रहा है, लेकिन बाद में अन्तर रहा है। यह बड़ा विचारणीय प्रश्न है कि हमारे यहां सभी प्रकार का व्यवहार वह 18 वर्ष की आयु में कर सकता है लेकिन वह वोटिंग नहीं कर

[डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय]

सकता । अन्त में मैं इन शब्दों की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करूंगा :

"Other members of the Committee felt that this measure would provide to the younger generation a sense of participation in the democratic process."

कमेटी ने यह साफ तौर से कहा है और आगे कहा है :

"In their view, there are no valid reasons for denying the right of vote to the age group of 18—21 years, particularly when for all purposes of law they are treated as majors and deemed competent to handle their affairs."

यह कमेटी ने कहा है —

"The Minister of Law and Justice stated that Government had not taken any decision in regard to this."

यह मिनिस्टर ने कहा है । लेकिन कमेटी की जो रिकमेन्डेशन है वह इस प्रकार है :—

"Having considered both the above viewpoints. . ."

The Minister's point and the Committee Members' point.

". . . the Committee decided that the voting age should be reduced from 21 to 18 years. The Committee, therefore, recommend that article 326 of the Constitution might be amended accordingly."

माननीय सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि मैं निवेदन कर रहा था हमारा पड़ोसी देश, जिसका अभी अभी अभ्युदय हुआ है—बंगला देश—उस ने भी 18 वर्ष की आयु मतदान के लिए रखी है । छोटे छोटे देश जैसे जाम्बिया, वेनुजुला, कांगो, बलगारिया, हंगरी, इजराइल, लाओस, सीरिया, आस्ट्रिया, पोलैंड आदि सब अपने यहां 18 वर्ष की आयु मतदान के लिये करते हैं और इनको इसमें किसी प्रकार की हिचक नहीं हुई तो हमारे यहां क्या कठिनाई है ? मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उनके अपने शब्दों की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं जो उन्होंने एक उत्तर में 15 मार्च, 1974 को कहे थे

"It would not be proper for me to make the commitment, but I say that the Government are actively considering this matter and a decision would be taken as soon as the difficulties are solved."

मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि वे कौन सी डिफीकल्टीज हैं जो दो वर्ष के बाद भी साल्व नहीं हो सकी हैं । सरकार के सामने क्या बन्धन हैं जो मतदान की आयु घटाने के लिये अभी भी विचार कर रही है । फैडरल रिपब्लिक आफ जर्मनी में भी कुछ समय पूर्व ही यह आयु घटाई गई है, कोरिया में तो इसे घटा कर 17 वर्ष कर दिया गया है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस को घटाने में क्यों हिचक रही है—क्या आप यह समझते हैं कि यदि युवक आ गये तो जिस रूप में आज आप बैठे हुए हैं उस रूप में बैठे नहीं रह सकेंगे । सारे देश में बदलती हुई परिस्थिति को देखते हुए सरकार को चाहिए कि स्वयं आगे आ कर कहे कि हम बदलती हुई परिस्थिति को देखते हुए कहें कि हम इसे स्वीकार करते हैं । मैंने सदन की समितियों का हवाला दे कर बतलाया है कि सब ने इस की सिफारिश की है । याचिका समिति ने भी सर्व सम्मति से सिफारिश की है । निर्वाचन सम्बन्धी बिल पर संयुक्त प्रवर समिति बनी थी । उसने भी सिफारिश की थी । इन समितियों की सिफारिशों को देखते हुए तथा आज के अर्थशास्त्रियों, राजनीतिज्ञों, युवा संघों तथा समाज शास्त्रियों, विधिवेत्ताओं की सिफारिशों को देखते हुए मैं समझता हूं कि मतदान की आयु को घटाने में सरकार को किसी प्रकार की हिचक नहीं होनी चाहिये

और यह अधिकार मौलिक अधिकार माना जाना चाहिए ।

मंत्री महोदय ने स्वय भी इस बात को स्वीकार किया था, मनें उन का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया है । हो सकता है कि ऐसा करने से थोड़ी बहुत वोटर्स की संख्या बढ़ेगी—वह तो बढ़ेगी ही, लेकिन वर्तमान सदर्भ आज जिस प्रकार की परिस्थिति देश में है, जिस का सक्षिप्त विवेचन मैं ने पहले किया है, उस को देखते हुए, मैं समझता हू कि किसी भी पक्ष को विरोधी पक्ष या काग्रेसी पक्ष को इस का विरोध नही करना चाहिये । जब जब यह विषय यहा आया है, काग्रेस पक्ष के सदस्यो ने भी इ स को स्वीकार किया है ।

माननीय सदस्य श्री मूल चन्द डागा के शब्दो को मै आप के सामने उद्धृत करना चाहता हू—उन्हो ने ये शब्द 2 सितम्बर 1972 को यहा पर हुई एक चर्चा मे कहे थे । यह दूसरी बात है कि जब मत-विभाजन का प्रश्न आयेगा तो शायद डागा जी भी यहा से भाग खडे होगे, वे शायद इस के पक्ष मे मत देने को तैयार नही होगे मैं चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने जो माग की है उस पर दृढ रहे और उस के पक्ष मे मत दे और सरकार से जोरदार शब्दो मे कहे कि इस बिल को स्वीकार किया जाना चाहिये । मै उन के शब्दो को उद्धृत कर रहा हू

"Shri M. C. Daga: Whenever the leaders of the country go to the young people, they are told that they are the people of the future and they should come forward In view of this, the voting age should be reduced to 18 years, so that young people could contribute towards the development of the country. Moreover, the new generation is more educated and mature. They should, therefore, be given opportunities to establish new values of life."

यदि न्यु वैल्यूज आफ लाइफ हम को स्थापित करना है तो हमें इस बिल को बिना किसी विरोध के स्वीकार कर लेना चाहिए । यदि हम देश में कुछ नई बाते लाना चाहते हैं, कुछ नए परिवर्तन लाना चाहते है, नई मान्यताये लाना चाहते है, यदि हम युवको के बढते हुए असन्तोष को खत्म करना चाहते हैं, उस को सीमित करना चाहते है, उन के ऊपर किसी न किसी प्रकार की जवाबदेही और उत्तरदायित्व सौपना चाहते हैं तो आवश्यक है कि हम उन को इस प्रकार के अधिकार से वचित न करे। जैसा मैं ने पहले निवेदन किया है कि इस प्रकार की माग सभी वर्गों की ओर से बार बार आई है, सरकार यह कह कर कि आज विद्यार्थियो से असन्तोष है, विद्यार्थी बिहार मे गड़बड़ कर रहे है, मध्य प्रदेश और गुजरात मे गड़बड़ करते है, यह सही विचार धारा नहीं है । उन के मूल कारणो में जाना चाहिये । क्या सरकार ने इस पर गम्भीरता से विचार किया है ? यदि सरकार गंभीरता से विचार करती तो इस पक्ष मे ही फैसला करती और उन से स्वय कहती कि आप को वोटिंग राइट दिया जाता है, मतदान का अधिकार दिया जाता है, आप को भी शासनतन्त्र मे परिवर्तन लाने का अधिकार है, भले ही इस परिवर्तन से सरकार मे बैठे हुए पक्ष को कम वोट मिले । अभी भी क्या स्थिति है—उत्तर प्रदेश में आप को 32 प्रतिशत वोट मिले है, केन्द्र के चुनावों में 40–42 प्रतिशत मत मिले थे, लेकिन बहुमत में कहलाते है । कभी भी

काग्रेस को 50 प्रतिशत से ऊपर मत नही मिले और वह अल्पमत मे रही किन्तु हमेशा अल्पमत की सरकार बहुमत की सरकार रही है, इसलिये कि करोडो लोगो को मतदान से वचित किया गया है । आज हमारे युवको की माग केवल मतदान के लिये आयु घटाने की ही नही है, चुनाव पद्धति को बदलने की माग भी है । सामाजिक व्यवस्था मे परिवर्तन की माग है । शिक्षा पद्धति बदलने की माग है । आज की चुनाव विधि मे सशोधन करना बहुत आवश्यक है , अन्यथा ये बहुमत मे बैठने वाले लोग भी जो वास्तव मे जनता का विश्वास खो कर आये है, जनता मे बहुमत के आधार पर उन को विश्वास नही दिया है, काबिज रहेंगे । इसीलिये बिहार के अन्दर असन्तोष प्रकट हुआ, गुजरात ने अपना असन्तोष प्रकट किया और देश के अन्य भागो में भी असन्तोष प्रकट हो रहा है । सरकार इसी सदर्भ मे इस पर गम्भीरता से विचार करे । यह आरोप-प्रत्यारोपो की बात नही है । जैसा मैं ने पहले कहा है यहा के युवको ने एक दिशा दी है, मै चाहता हू कि माननीय मत्री जी इस को गम्भीरता से ले । इस सदन के सभी सदस्यो से मेरा अनुरोध है कि आज का युवक अपने अधिकारो के लिये उठ खडा हुआ है, वह अपने अधिकारो के लिये लडाई लड रहा है सडक पर आ गया है कल आप के सामने भी आ कर खडा होगा, तब ज्यादा चिन्ता और कठिनाई होगी । मैं चाहता हू कि देश मे वह स्थिति पैदा न हो, अराजकता न आये, प्रजातान्त्रिक पद्धति के आधार पर प्रजातन्त्र कायम रहे । लोकतन्त्र की मर्यादा कायम रहे , समाज के सब अगो को समाज मे उचित स्थान मिले, नये जीवन मूल्यो की प्रतिष्ठा हो। इस हेतु से मै माननीय सदस्यो से आग्रह करता हू कि वे इसको स्वीकार करे। आज का युवक देश को नई दिशा दे सकता है, वह आगे आया है, उस की इस मांग को ठुकराने का कोई औचित्य नही है इसलिये मै बार बार आग्रह कर रहा हू कि सरकार मेरे विधेयक को स्वीकार करे ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) The Bill raises two points one—the voting age should be reduced to 18 and another—it should be made a fundamental right He talked about lowering the age but he did not say anything about making it a fundamental right

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय मैं ने पहले ही निवेदन किया है कि आर्टिकल 326 मे सशोधन करते हुए आर्टिकल 19 मे भी सशोधन किया जाय । मै चाहता हू कि आर्टिकल 19 मे भी सशोधन किया जाय ।

श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी आप ने पहले ऐसा कहा नही था इसलिये मै ने याद दिलाया ।

मैने इस के बारे मे याद भी दिलाया है कि आप ने आर्टिकल 19 का जिक्र नही किया और शायद आप उस का सशोधन नही चाहते है ।

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय मै आप को धन्यवाद देता हू और आप का कृतज्ञ हू कि आप ने मुझे इस की याद दिलाई है । अपने सशोधन मे मै ने आर्टिकल 19 और आर्टिकल 326 के सशोधनो की माग की है । बिल प्रस्तुत करते हुए अन्त मे मै ने जो कुछ कहा

है उस को आप देखें । जहां जहां संशोधनों की आवश्यकता है वे होने चाहियें ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

*SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my Party the Communist Party of India (Marxists) I wholeheartedly welcome the Bill introduced by Dr. Laxminarain Pandey. Before I discuss the provisions of this Bill I would like to draw your attention Sir, to the reference which has just now been made by the hon. Minister. A little while ago the hon. Minister referring to the observation of Dr. Pandey said: "Aap jhoot bole raha hai"—you are teling lies. I would like to know from you Sir, whether in Parliamentary parlance the word "lies" is parliamentary or not and if not whether it behaves a Minister to use it. I would request the Minister to withdraw the word and only after that I will commence my speech.

SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: I did not use the word to anything that Mr. Pandeya had said. Since he had not referred to Article 19, I pointedly drew his attention to that. And when Mr. Kachwai said that he had said that, I said: Mr. Kachwai, don't speak lie. I did not say a word that Mr. Pandeya had said anything wrong.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: With respects to the Minister, what I would say is this. You Mr. Chairman, may kindly go through the tape-record and you will find that he used the word *jhoot*—that means, lie. That is unparliamentary. Although do not believe in Parliamentary democracy, I must say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us straighten out the matter now. The hon. Minister said that he did not deliberately use the word lie to anything that Mr. Pandeya had said.

SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: He did not refer to Article 19. When Mr. Kachwai said he referred, I said no. He had not referred to it.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: You said, lie.

SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: I want the debate to be complete. Therefore I got up and drew his attention to it. Mr. Kachwai intervened and said something. I said, don't say like this. Mr. Pandeya had not referred to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is, whether you have said the word lie. I understand the position of the Minister that he did not mean that. He only drew the attention of the Member to the fact that he had not referred to Article 19, although it is very relevant for purposes of discussion.

Now, I just want to take the sense of the House whether they accept this view.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): He used the word "lie" when he wanted to say "wrong". Let us leave it at that. I am sure he does not mean that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Of course, the word lie is unparliamentary. The Minister says he did not mean that. He meant it as 'wrong.'

श्री पी० जी० मावलंकर : अगर यह कहते "सही नहीं है" तब तो पार्लियामेंटरी था, लेकिन उन्हों ने कहा है—"झूठ है" जो कि अनपार्लियामेंटरी है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can we accept this explanation?

*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): It is a question of translation. Are you going to consider *jhoot* as unparliamentary or parliamentary? You will reserve your ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is used as 'lie' in the sense in which it is normally understood, I think that is unparliamentary. But the Minister says he has not used that in that sense. And as Prof. Mavalankar said he used the word '*jhooth*' for 'wrong' So, let us accept that. Mr. Halder has also agreed to this. Mr. Halder, now you go on with your speech.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already stated that on behalf of my Party I welcome the Constitution Amendment Bill which has been introduced by Dr. Pandey. Even after 27 years of independence the authorities in power are afraid of giving the right of vote to the boys of 18 and they are reluctant to reduce the voting age from 21 to 18. They have no courage and they don't trust the youth of this country. But I would like to remind the gentlemen opposite who are occupying the seat of power that during the days of British imperialism in West Bengal hundreds and thousands of young men below the age of 21 had not only come forward to participate in the non-cooperation movement but they had shed their blood and given their lives in revolutionary activities in their earnest bid to end the British rule and to free mother India from the shackles of slavery. We cannot forget the Chittangong, Armoury raid case. In this historic event a boy of 17—Shri Tagore Ball fought bravely and laid down his life fighting against the British rulers. Day before yesterday, this august House paid its homage to Shri Hare Krishna Konar. Shri Konar had participated in non-cooperation movement at the age 14 and at the age of 17 he joined the revolutionaries to bring about a fall of the British imperialistic power in the country. As a result he was deported to Andaman as given life imprisonment. This is only to cite a few examples and there are many such incidents in other States also where youngmen had gladly given their lives for the cause of freedom of our country. It is indeed very strange Sir, that having won the freedom which was possible because of the contributions of youngmen below the age of 21, today we refuse to consider them as responsible and are utterly reluctant to give them the right of vote. It is an irony that those who are enjoying the fruits of freedom and are installed in power conveniently forget the sacrifices made by the youngmen of our country and they are trying to perpetually debar the 10 crores youngmen of India from their legitimate right to vote under flimsy grounds of their not being responsible. Sir, we talk hoarse about students unrest in the country. No doubt our youngmen of our country today, under the circumstances created by this country are beoming more and more restive. They are suffering from frustration and the only way out, to my mind, is that they have to be given a share of the responsibility which is hitherto been denied to them. We have to consider the inclusion of students representatives in the University Councils. What is the contribution of these youngmen of our country to the country's economy? Can you really deny that these young men below 31 are contributing their head labour in fields and factories and are trying their best to take the country ahead towards prosperity? Can we deny that these young men in other essential spheres of life are equally important and they have been acknowledged by law to be important and if it is so, how can you possibly deny them their precious right to vote. I do not want to repeat the arguments put forward by Dr. Pandey, though all of them are very good but I would only refer to the fact that Joint Committee of this Parliament on Election Law Amendment Bill had presented

its report on 13th March, 1972 through its Chairman Shri Jagannath Rao, had you unanimously recommended that the voting age should be reduced from 21 to 18. The Joint Committee was a representative body of all the political parties in Parliament and hence it was the unanimous opinion of all the politial parties. What would be the consequence if we concedes this right to the young men of our country? Ten crores more young men will be on the voters list. How much are you going to spend extra for these extra voters? It is true that we have to set up a few more polling booths and it may be that we have to spend a little more in conducting the elections. But is it not a fact that whether we include them or not the voters list is even otherwise inflating and is it also not tragically true that crores of rupees are going down the drain through the Government exchequer. If it be so why should we not give our young men a right which legitimately belonging to them. But I am afraid Sir, that the political party in power today is hesitant, reluctant and adamant not to give this power to the 10 crores young men of our country because in that case they cannot remain any longer in power and the complexion of this House will change. Those in power today may not be there tomorrow and this is the precise reason why during the last 3-4 years despite repeated efforts made in this House, the Government have refused to give this right to the young men of our country who are 18 years of age. Before independence we had given a call to the young men to make sacrifices to the freedom. They came forward, they struggled for the freedom suffered harassment, torture, and even many laid down their lives in the progress of the struggle and today we refuse to acknowledge their role and give them their share of right. When the independence actually came and even 27 years thereafter. It is equally strange that when all the youth organisations of the different political parties in the country are one in their demand for reducing the age to 18, it is really inconceivable rather lamentable that the Government should remain impervious and try to flout the common will. What is that unsurmountable difficulty? What is that prevents the Government to act in the face of such unanimous demand. Very often in this House we refer to British Parliament whenever there is any controversy about any parliamentary procedure. We have taken that Parliament as our model even though personally I subscribe to the view that we cannot bring about a change in our social order through to parliamentary institution. Yet I must say that even that country has given a right to vote to young men of 18. In U.S.A, the leader of all capitalist countries, young men of 18 have a right to vote. In USSR and in other Socialist countries this has right has also been given and of late even Bangladesh has given this right to their young men of 18. If it be so how and on what moral grounds can we deprive our young men of the right Very often we talk of our young men in hyperbolic terms and we call them the future citizens of India. We look forward to them as the future about saviour of our demacracy but when the question franchise is raised we forget them totally. A right to vote will instill in them a greater sense of responsibility and with this added responsibility they would be better able to contribute their mite for the development of the country. It has another advantage, Sir, the ruling party, is in habit of manipulating bogus names in the Voters Lists and this chronic menace will to an extent be mitigated if we give the right to vote to our youngmen of 18. Many of the social ills and social unrests can be remedied if the young men are given this right to vote. Sir, I have come across a news item in Hindustan Times dated 1st October, 1972 wherein the former Election Commissioner Shri S. P. Sen Verma is reported to have stated that there will be no administrative diffi-

[Shri Krishna Chandra Halder]

culty if the voting age is lowered to 18. This further proves that the demand is not only legitimate but it is also administratively feasible.

It is therefore my earnest request to the Government that when it has been recommended by a Parliamentary Committee and when there is unanimity on this issue among the youth organisations of all political parties there is no reason why it should be withheld any longer and I will hope that the Government will accept the amendment to articles 19 and 326 as suggested by Dr. Pandey and confer this right to our youngmen in this very session. If we refuse to do it we shall be doing it only at our own cost. The country is sliding from crisis to crisis. The Plan has failed and the economic policies of Government have failed to mitigate the difficulties of the peolpe and already the country is witnessing agitations in Gujarat, Bihar and in West Bengal. We are sitting on a valcano and the time is not far off when it will erupt and engulf us all. If we deny this right to young men of our country even today we cannot withhold it for ever. They will rise in revolt and will earn their own right in their own way. They will struggle for it and lead the country to the path of a struggle.

I once again support the Bill and conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. B. V. Naik. Before he begins his speech, I would like to inform hon. Members who would like to participate in this debate that there are 11 more speakers left in this list, and we have to close this discussion at 5.30 p.m. when we have to take up the half-an-hour discussion. So, I would like hon. Members to co-operate with me and make brief speeches and take only five to seven minutes each.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I rise to oppose this Bill. One of the most essential factors of youth which is not connected essentially with this is a frame of mind which is not hypocritical. With Dr. Laxminarain Pandeya, I would like to confess that I have no doubt at all in my mind that this Bill coming at this time is inopportune. If what we call as eligibility to vote or participate in the political processes of this country has got something to do with what is called as maturity of mind, I do not think that the previous speaker, Shri K. C. Halder is having much to do with that, because you witnessed that he got absolutely upset over the use of a word which was made inadvertently when the hon. Minister concerned was trying to be helpful to the Mover of the Bill.

17 hrs.

That, I do not think by any stretch of imagination, could be called as a mature outlook. If this is at the age at which we are, if we cannot be mature in our outlook, I wonder, with due deference to the hon. members as well as the Mover, how we can expect our younger generation to be so mature.

Time being limited, the other point I would urge this House and the Mover to consider is whether we are moving this reduction in the voting age after consultation with the members of that group. If you go to any person within the age group of 18-21 and ask him in all sincerity and honesty 'What is it that you want as item number one in your list of demands with the society in which you are brought up?' he will not ask you for reduction in the voting age.

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र (इलाहाबाद) : वह रसगुल्ला मांगेंगे तो क्या करें ?

श्री बी० बी० नायक : वह हम मांगते थे पर आजकल के नौजवान जो है they will ask for something better. At our age, we used to ask for *rasgulla* but the younger generation of today is much more capable than what we were. What I would tell our new hon. member for Allahabad is that if he can wait patiently, he will learn much more. If we were to ask this younger generation, they will say: 'First and foremost, give us a job as soon as we come out of schools, colleges and universities'. This the party to which Dr. L. N. Pandeya belongs may not like wedded as it is to the *chaturvarna dharma* of this country. I think the *varnashrama dharma* did not permit the young below 25 any process in the life of society including marriage. Now we have got it done. Where is the *varnashrama dharma* of the Jan Sangh? Is it motivated by anything? Reinforced and armed with the power of the RSS which now flaunts its power and shows its fangs in the university campuses and the colleges, they think that the entire younger generation is with them, the currently fashionable fascist forces in this country.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : आप के कानूनो मे सब जगह 18 वर्ष लिखा है । आर० एस० एस० जैसी देशभक्त सस्था को इसके बीच क्यो ला रहे है ?

श्री बी० बी० नायक : इस के पीछे तो आर० एस० एस० का हिडेन हैड जरूर है जो कि हम अच्छी तरह से जानते है ।

The hand of this fascist organisation is seen there.

Now I would say: give them definitely this voting age of 18, but first let us ban these quasi-fascist and fascist organisations in this country which are holding the freedom of this country to ransom. Let us ban the RSS, the Anand Margis and such other fascist organisations which are fomenting trouble in university campuses. They are behind the food riots, they are behind the agitation in Gujarat. Now they have got a very respectable...

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Without going into the merits of the question whether we should brand the RSS etc., as fascist or not, may I know whether the hon. member is seriously suggesting and arguing that the demand for reduction of the voting age is being made only by the RSS and such other bodies and parties? Why should he bring political organisations into his argument? Let him say that the age of 18 for voting is not valid.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: He asked me if I am serious. I am deadly serious. We have seen this marriage of convenience in Bihar and other places between the extreme right and extreme left. Because an hon. member from a rightist faction and another hon member from the leftist faction join together under a common plank with a common programme of demands that does not mean that these demands have got any ideological backing. What is it that the youth of the country want today? Do they need jobs, social security, a productive part in the country's economy or do they need the right to put their votes in the ballot box? On the basis of the competing priorities before the youth today, what is it that they need immediately? I wish Dr. Pandeya had gone to the youth in recent months. If in all sincerity we go to the youth and ask them they will say, voting is a hypothetical right, one vote among the millions दरिया में खसखस ।

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : ठीक है, इस पर बैलट करा लिया जाय 18 साल और 20 साल की उम्र वालों का ।

श्री बी० बी० नायक : अगर प्लेबिसाइट हर बात पर करा कर दुनिया चलाना चाहते है तो at a particular point of time, you can get a plebiscite in favour of anything and against anything. It is possible to manipulate. We politicians, are capable of all the trickery that the human mind is capable of....

If we see article 56, we see that the President of India should have a minimum age of 35. Whey do not give that righet to a person who is 21? (*Interruptions.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I am only urging that although it is well-intentioned, whatever is fashionable for the rich countries which he has referred to, Australia, Canada and others, it is not relevant here. We have other priorities. I think we should be able to depoliticalise the minds of our younger generation to the extent possible and put it on constructive lines and see that they are not seduced or abused by unscrupulous political organisations.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Sir, I welcome and support this Bill moved by Dr. Laxminarain Pandeya. In fact, I was myself thinking on those lines. But then I found that a Bill on this subject was already on the anvil and only it had not received priority in the ballot so far. That is why I myself did not introduce a new Bill on this subject.

I would perhaps only say at the onset that the age could have been 19 instead of 18, because from 13 to 19—Winston Churchill once said: "13 to 19, these are the years!"—one is supposed to be in one's teens when one is in the high school or college. By the time one reaches 19 one is fit for exercising the right of voting. In any case, I feel that the age of voting has to be lowered. What are the objections of Government to that? But before I come to those, may I say this, Mr. Chairman, Sir? On a debate like this, as a matter of fact, on any debate in Private Members' Business, do you not think, Mr. Chairman that it would be right and proper for the Ministers concerned to be present, instead of leaving the matters to their colleagues or deputies? I have the greatest respect of Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhuri But if the Private Members' Business is to be given sanctity and respectability, then a full-fledged member of the Cabinet should be present when such matters are being discussed. Sir, I am making this point for your consideration.

Now, let us see what can be the objections of Government to this Bill? One would be that the expenses would go up because there would be more voters and the other would be that the number of voters would go up. Both these objections can be ruled out by saying that even without the lowering of the voting age, the expenses are going up and the number of voters will also go up But the real difficulty, and it is true not only of this Government but of many other governments which of late have accepted this amendment and reduced the age from 21 to 18, is that they are afraid of youth organisations and youth power. They feel that if the youth at 18 are given their right to vote, they will not vote for the established government of the day. That is why there is an inherent, almost built in, fear or complex on the part of various governments in democratic countries as well as non-democratic countries against giving the right of vote to the younger people at the age of 18.

Moreover, there may be the question or a debate whether adulthood

and responsibility are possible at the age of 18. My hon. friend, Shri Nayak, at least at the end of his speech made some valid point that in the Indian climate our youth at the age of 18 are not so better off compared to the youth of western countries, so far as their intellectual and mental development is concerned.

I do concede the point that what is happening in our colleges and universities today shows a certain amount of immaturity in the young boys and girls. But it is not their fault. Today the colleges and universities are such that the boys and girls are not able to think independently, stand on their own legs and solve their own problems. There is too much of security in our society. Parents are afraid that their children may go wrong, if they are given more freedom. Therefore, they prohibit them from doing many things. In the foreign countries, on the other hand the youth are given the freedom to commit mistakes. The youth in foreign countries psychologically, intellectually and mentally are more active, responsible and advanced. But, then, that is not to suggest that because the Indian students or youth lag behind, so they should be denied this privilege. They should be given the right to get involved in the democratic set up at the age of 18.

It is very difficult to say whether a person becomes an adult at 18 or 21. But there should be some place where to draw the line. I personally believe that 18 years is good. If at this age one could join the army, or decide to marry and choose one's life's partner, or achieve majority for handling financial transactions, I do not know why the age of 18 is not good for choosing as to who will be the elected representative, M.L.A., or M.P.

SHRI NIMBALKAR (Kolhapur): There is no difference between choosing a wife and choosing an M.P.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Both require a delicate judgment. In the case of choosing the wife or the husband perhaps there is no remedy. But in the case of choosing an MLA or MP, there is a remedy at the end of five year.

Now, Sir, Dr. Pandeya has given several examples of countries like U.K., U.S.A., Canada and other western European countries and also of countries in the developing world where the voting age has been reduced from 21 to 18 years. If some of the countries in the developing world can take the experiment boldly, I do not know why we in India cannot take this experiment and do it boldly. I must say that, if you do not give this right to vote at the age of 18, it means that you are denying a large number of young men and women of this country the rightful privilege that they have got for involvement and participation in the democratic set-up of this country. If the right to vote is given at the age of 18, I am sure the intellectual climate and the mental make-up, about which I have made a reference a little while ago, will eventually go up. After all, it is a question of which must come first. Should you first make the young people more mature at the age of 18 than at the age of 21 and then give them the right to vote or should you give them first the right to vote at the age of 18, thereby automatically and simultaneously giving them the facility of better equipment in terms of mental make-up, better equipment in terms of intellectual ability? Obviously, I prefer the latter.

I want to conclude by suggesting that the young must be able to participate meaningfully in all the activities of our country. Today, Sir, the tragedy is this: Before Independence, people of my generation had the privilege of actively participating in freedom movement, in public life, in public affairs, but I find, of late, particularly from the beginning of

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar.]

our Independence till at least 1970 or 1971, a large number of our youth, boys and girls and men and women of this country, shun politics, shun public life; they despise any kind of involvement in public life and try to keep aloof from it. If, however, we want them to be involved fully and meaningfully in the public and political life of our democratic Republic, the starting point is giving them the right to vote at the age of 18. It is good that Dr. Pandeya has not mentioned that the age in respect of MLA or MP should also be reduced to 18 years. He has not mentioned it. Therefore, I take it that he wants that the age in respect of MLA to remain at 21 and above, in respect of the Member of Lok Sabha at 25 and above, in respect of the Member of Rajya Sabha at 30 and above, in respect of the President of India at 35 and above. Ours is a country of young people. Majority of the people of new India are young people, vibrant with youthfulness and enthusiasm, and denying them the right to involvement and participation in the democratic set-up is neither just nor fair nor equitable nor decent nor right.

In conclusion, I would say that this House, by a large majority, should support this valuable measure. I hope Government themselves will come forward with the proposal to reduce the voting age from 21 to 18 years, so that the younger people who feel frustrated, who do not feel like joining the public and political life, will have a chance and opportunity to make themselves active to express themselves both through the ballot-box and otherwise. Only this, can the country's democratic set-up be further strengthened.

DR V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO (Bellary): I rise to support this Bill. I am sorry I have to disagree from my colleague in Parliament from my own State, but I have some experience with the student community. I have started teaching first in the year 1929 and I know that the students to-day are in a state of great ferment and all sorts of things are being done by them and all sorts of things are being attributed to them.

I do not think the question of Gujarat or Bihar is relevant in the context of the particular proposition that we are discussing, whether the voting age should be lowered from 21 to 18 or not. Nor must I say is there any relevance in the speculation on the possibility of whom will these 18—21 vote for if they are given the vote, whether they will vote for Congress or Communists or Jana Sangh or Swatantra or whether they will abstain from voting. It is a question of whether we should lower the voting age from 21 to 18 or not. I am not impressed by the question of expenses and so on. Elections are expensive and elections are bound to be more and more expensive in future unless you find some other way of curbing the cost of elections. I am not also wanting to bring in the fact that so many countries have done it. If so many countries have done it, it is a good thing. If so many other countries have not done it, that also does not bother us. This is a question on which we have to take a decision ourselves.

This country took a very historic decision when we decided to confer adult franchise on all men and women of the age of 21. But at that time there had been arguments about it. Many people could have said: the vast majority of this country are illiterate, they are superstitious, they are living in the medieval ages and it would not be possible to have anything like a parliamentary democracy in this country. But what have we found in actual fact? As a matter of fact, almost in the first elections, if I am not mistaken, in the 1952 elections, there was an organization called Hindu Mahasabha which put up candidates. Hindu Mahasabha obviously

should have appealed to the illiterate, superstitious and medieval masses of this country and yet what did we find then? The Hindu Mahasabha was represented in this House by one or two Members while the vast majority of the electorate voted for people who did not go and talk only in the name of Hindus or Hindu Maha Sabha.

So, maturity is not something that is linked with literacy or, if I may say so, with the age of 21 or the age of 18. If the people of 18 are immature, then I would say people of the age of 21 are also immature and I would go further and say that the people of the age of 60 and above are also immature. If you are going to have a limit of 21 for voting age, I think there is some logic in also saying that people over a particular age should also be denied the right to vote..

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Dhubri): Professor, don't be afraid.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I am not afraid. It is Mr. Choudhury who should be afraid because he wants to stay longer in the Parliament. Therefore, let us not go into all these irrelevant questions.

The real question to-day seems to me that the students are being politicalised. No question of their not being politicalised. They are being politicalised by the back door. They are being politicalised by the Parties not openly expressing themselves. You have organization amount the students which are not branches of the political parties They have different names and affiliations and connections. What kind of the connections—I do not know. Politicalisation is something which cannot be avoided and it seems to me that in terms of the growth of the students community in this country, whatever may be the resort they may be taking recently to violence—there are many reasons and this is not the time to talk about them. I would say this that the younger generation of to-day know more than the younger generation of my age or even of subsequent ages. It is so not only in this country, it is so all over the world. I would say that if we give them the vote, then they can become properly political. Political does not mean in the sense that they spend all their time in politics. As a matter of fact, those who have got their vote at the age of 21 and above are not spending all their time in politics. Some of them are in business. some of them are in teaching, some of them are farmers and some of them are agricultural labourers. They are not spending all their time in politics but they have a sense of participation and responsibility in the governance of the country. They can take an intelligent, rational interest in what is happening in the country and come to informed judgments on the basis of their own evaluation and analysis as to what should be done as far as the country's problems are concerned.

It seems to me that 18 is a good age. I do not know why our friend, Professor Mavalankar should be so apologetic and why he wanted it to be 19 and he gave some reasons. Actually, 18 means college-going population. 18 divides the Higher Secondary School and the so-called Junior College. It is really the dividing line from the regular college. Students of the colleges are interested in politics. They do not get opportunity to get political education by getting speeches from active political workers and having the opportuity to Cross-examine them. It happens in Oxford and Cambridge. I went from Bombay to Cambridge for my further education. In Cambridge there is the Cambridge Labour Club, the Cambridge Conservative Association, the Cambridge Liberal Association and the Cambridge Marxist Club. Members of those

(Dr. V. K. R. Varadaraja Rao)

parties including Ministers would come to their functions and they will be cross-examined by the students. Thus the students are enabled to cultivate political judgment instead of merely being taken in by political propaganda. And incidentally it gave them good training and it was a good training ground for those who went later on to take part in active public services and so on.

Sir, I do not want to take more time because, I understand that there is one more speaker before 5-30. So, I would like to conclude by saying this. I do not say that this is going to solve the students' problem; not at all. I am not saying that. I am not saying that giving vote to the students will solve the problem of unemployment. Well, what happens is this. You have to give the vote to the people of the age of 21 and over. I do not want to reel out before you the statistics of unemployment. But I can assure you that the vast majority of literate registered unemployed in this country are voters. They are over the age of 21. Therefore, having the vote and being unemployed has no connection at all. I think, Sir, if we give the right to vote to students, to young men of 18 and over, it will bring a little greater measure of political responsibility among the younger generation. Rightly or wrongly, the younger generation are taking part in politics. They did take part in the Gujarat agitation; they are taking part in the Bihar agitation. It is no good-sitting in this House and making speeches is not going to stop them. One should go to Bihar if one wants to stop them or argue with them.

So, what I want to say is this. It is not merely a question of taking part in agitations or not Students are political. They are being politicalised. But they are not being politicalised on right lines And I suggest that if they are made voters, then, the political parties will take more serious interest in them. more responsible interest in them, more open interest in them, and we will have better informed political judgment on the part of the students. Therefore, whole-heartedly support the intention behind this Bill that speedier action should be taken to lower the voting age in this country from twenty-one to eighteen. Thank you.

17.29 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER—*in the Chair*].

MOTION RE CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER. Hon. Members, please execuse me for a brief interruption. I have to inform the House that today at about 11 05, a visitor calling himself Bipalab Basu attempted to enter the Visitor's Gallery of Lok Sabha after getting his pass checked at the checking post The Senior Watch and Ward Assistant of the Lok Sabha Secretariat who was on duty near the Visitors' Gallery gate found a spring dagger hidden on his person tied on his right leg under his trousers. The said Bipalab Basu gave a severe kick to the Senior Watch and Ward Assistant and it was very serious. Our officer rolled and was almost semi-conscious, in a very bad state He was taken into custody immediately by the Watch and Ward Officer. This is a serious matter. I bring it to the notice of the House for such action as the House may deem fit.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir I beg to move:

'This House resolves that the person calling himself Bipalab Basu who at 11.05 hours today attempted to enter the Visitors' Gallery of Lok Sabha with a dagger hidden on his

MR. SPEAKER: So, I will put this Motion—without prejudice to any other action that can be taken.

The question is:

"This House resolves that the person calling himself Bipalab Basu who at 11.05 hours today attempted to enter the Visitors Gallery of Lok Sabha with a dagger hidden on his person and who assaulted a Senior Watch and Ward Assistant of Lok Sabha Secretariat, who was on duty near the Visitors' Gallery gate by giving him a severe kick and whom the Watch and Ward Officer took into custody immediately, has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that without prejudice to any other action to which he may be liable under the law, Bipalab Basu be sentenced to rigorous imprisonment till 6 P.M. on Monday, the 26th August, 1974 for the aforesaid contempt of the House and sent to Central Jail, Tihar, New Delhi."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY (Gorakhpur): Who issued the pass?

MR. SPEAKER: It is now over.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: This is a daily happening affair. After all some restriction should be put to the Members also regarding the passes.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all over.

17.31 hrs.

WELCOME TO MR. RATU JOSAIA TAVAQUIA, THE TUI VUDA AND MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF FIJI

MR. SPEAKER: Before we take up half-an-hour discussion, may I take this opportunity, on your behalf, of welcoming to Lok Sabha a distinguished and highly respected friend of ours in Fiji.

He happens to be visiting our Lok Sabha to-day. We all welcome him and wish him a very happy stay in our country.

17.32 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION SETING UP OF SHIPYARD AT HALDIA PORT

PROF. SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister in regard to the necessity of having a shipyard at Haldia port.

As the report goes, the Government have almost decided that in the Fifth Five Year Plan they are going to set up two additional ship building yards and have already been allotted for that of Rs. 50 crores. Out of three existing shipbuilding yards—one at Bombay, one at Cochin and one at Vizag and the additional one at Cochin—we find that three are in the

[Prof. Samar Guha]

vest coast and one in the South. Naturally, the question of having one or two more ship-building yards as proposed in the Fifth Plan may be considered somewhere near the eastern region or eastern coast. I do not make a proposition from any regional consideration but from distributive point of view to help the industrial complex of the Eastern region. So, at least one should be in the east coast. That would be in keeping with the policy of the Government to have a shipbuilding yard in the eastern region on the east coast for the benefit of the eastern region as well.

Sir, in 1973. the Government have set up one techno-economic committee under Brig Narula to go into it and study in depth where the locations of the two additional shipbuilding yards should be. It appears a number of claims were put forward before this Committee by different States This Committee have gone carefully into these claims It appears that the whole report has not been placed Haldia, Paradeep. Hazra in Gujarat, Culavangi and Gangra were selected as durable projections

As I have already said, out of these two additional ship-building yards, at least one additional shipbuilding yard should be in the eastern region As regards Culavangi, the question does not arise

17.34 hrs.

[DR HENRY AUSTIN—*in the Chair*]

Naturally the choice is between Paradeep and Haldia Whether it would be established at Paradeep or at Haldia, I do not want to have it examined from any regional point of view If the shipbuilding yard is at Paradeep, I shall consider it as a national shipbuilding yard for the whole country. If it is at Haldia, certainly, my friends from Orissa will consider this as much as a part for Orissa also. Thousands of Oriya workers are working at Kharagpur will be benefited. I am not going into the merits at all from any regional perspective. But, as it appears to me from the report in the press, that three models for shipbuilding have been proposed by the Expert Committee—Model No. I for 36,000 to 60,000 DWT, Model No. II for 1,20,000 to 1,80,000 DWT and Model No. III for 2,25,000 to 3,60,000 DWT. Sir, for model number one four and five probable sites for setting up the new ship-building yard were considered and all those sites were found suitable for this model. For model number two Culavangi, Paradip and Hazra were found suitable and for the third model only Haldia and Hazra were found suitable. Hazra is on the West coast whereas we want to set-up the new shipbuilding yard on the East coast So, on merit also the Haldia site is the most suitable. Also, according to the suggestions made by the techno-expert committee Haldia is the site where a ship building yard for the three models suits As regards Paradip model number two fits in

In 1971 another committee was set-up by the Government to go into the issue as to whether a shipbuilding yard can be set-up at Haldia and that Committee report was in favour of having a ship building yard at Haldia. In 1972 a Working Group was set-up. The Working Group also considered the various issues involved and favourably placed the report in favour of Haldia In November last year the hon'ble predecessor of our present hon'ble Minister almost disclosed his mind quite favourably in this House in regard to the suitability of having a ship building yard at Haldia and it also appeared from the Press reports that the Defence Ministry also favoured from defence considerations to have a ship building yard at Haldia.

There are other considerations that have to be taken into account from the point of view of infra-structure required for setting up such a ship building yard. It is known to everybody that Haldia has developed a new port and its capability of handling ships of different DWT is not only greater than Paradip or any other sites suggested but also a helpful new industrial complex is going to be built up at Haldia. There is another advantage. Haldia has the transport not only of rail and road but also inland river transport. This facility is available only in the case of Haldia. Also Calcutta which is a major terminal port has an easy connection with Haldia.

For ship repairs, for getting spares, for getting other facilties etc. you can easily have such a mojor terminal port to assist the shipbuilding yard at Haldia. The steel and the fuel plants complex is also very near Haldia and the transport is also very easy. Further, engineering facilities, spare parts, repair facilities are also very easily available for Haldia because of the Greater Calcutta complex of the industrial belt. In regard to pilotage, towage, cargo handling dredging facilities also, Haldia provides almost an ideal site for having a shipbuilding yard.

I have already said that if you want to have a shipbuilding yard, you must have a very good hinterland with all the facilities that I have already referred. This hinterland which can provide the necessary infrastructural aids and assistance is already there, because the industrial development of Greater Calcutta is known to one and all.

Further, the West Bengal Government have already offered a big piece of land for having a shipbuilding yard. I have been told Government have sent the Narula Committee report for prepare in the project report with foreign consultancy. I shall be happy if the hon. Minister will tell us what foreign consultancy is there and what type of projects they are going to prepare and submit.

My only concern is that the decision should not be delayed. The more you delay the decision, the higher the cost of construction of the shipbuilding would become. If we can start as early as possible, the cost can be kept at a lower level. For this reason I would like to know when the foreign consultancy report and project report would be ready, when Government are going decide where the site would be and so on. There is no regional or any other question involved here, but it is purely a question of merit. I hope the hon. Minister will agree that Haldia is a suitable site for having a shipbuilding yard and the work will be taken up early without further delay lest the cost should go up.

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोखी (जमशेदपुर): मै हल्दिया शिपयार्ड को बनाने के हक में हूं। यह हल्दिया का तो बहुत पुराना पोर्ट है, चार पांच सौ साल पुराना है और इस जगह से बिहार से जो माल एक्सपोर्ट होता है, बिहार के साथ मिदनापुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट लगा हुआ है और बिहार का जो माल है वह इस पोर्ट से जाता है। अगर शिपयार्ड यहा बना और शिप यहां बनेंगे तो बिहार से एक्सपोर्ट होने वाले माल के लिए सुविधा होगी। जो चर्चा होती है इस बारे में तीन तीन साल से कोई पता हीं नही लगता है और फिर जवाब बिल्कुल ना में मिलता है, दो लाइन का जवाब मिलता है। अगर जवाब ठीक तरीके से मिले तो हाफ एन अवर डिस्कशन की जरूरत नही है। मैं यह कहूंगा कि हल्दिया पोर्ट में शिपयार्ड बनाना चाहिये और उस को जल्दी से बनाना चाहिए। अगर बनने की बात

[सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह मोखी]

है तो जल्दी बनना चाहिये नहीं तो जितने दिन लगेंगे उतना ही दाम हर चीज का बढ़ता जायगा क्योंकि महगाई है और स्टील वगैरह जितनी चीजे है बहुत सारी चीजो का खर्चा बढ़ जायगा ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि लगभग 20–30 परसेंट माल तो हम लोग अपने शिप से भेजते है, जहा तक अन्दाजा है और 75 परसेन्ट बाहर के शिप्स मे भेजते है । कलकत्ता का जो पोर्ट है वहा बहुत ही कंजेस्टेड है । मेरा ख्याल है कि हिन्दुस्तानी शिप बनाए जाए और उन्ही से हमारा माल एक्सपोर्ट हो ता उस मे बहुत फायदा हो सकता है ।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हू कि यह जो शिपयार्ड है इस की रिपोर्ट अगर तैयार हो चुकी है तो हमारे सामने आनी चाहिए अगर कमिडरेशन मे है तो कितने साल, उस मे लगेंगे कसीडरेशन मे ? ड्यू कार्स के मान ता बहुत लम्बा हो जाता है । चाहे जितना लम्बा आप उसे कर दीजिए चाहे जितने साल लगा दीजिए। मेरा मतलब है कि जो काम यदि करना है, कोई शिपयार्ड बनाना है तो जल्दी बनना चाहिए । इस मे एक चीज मुझे कचीअर नही मालूम हुई कि शिप यार्ड ऐट हल्दिया, शिप बिल्डिंग यार्ड की बात नही कही गई थी, समर गुहा जी ने उसे कहा है, लेकिन मैं फिर यही कहुगा कि अगर बनना है तो जल्दी मे जल्दी बनना चाहिए और नही बनना है तो फैसला जल्दी से जल्दी बता देना चाहिए कि नही बनेगा, इसके ये ये कारण हैं ।

SHRI B V NAIK (Kanara): I had the opportunity to associate myself with the Committee of Brig. Narula in the same that we have been consulted I would like to thank the Committee and the Study-Group. No reflection is meant on the Committee and its work.

I would like to know whether what Prof Samar Guha has stated in favour of Haldia, the infra-structure, rail link, hinterland big repair facilities and so on are not exactly the disadvantages in the light of the report of a Committee appointed four years ago—if I am not mistaken, it is the Dutt Committee—which said that these big industrial complexes like Bombay, Calcutta and other big metropolitan centres should be barred from entry into these areas This Committee definitely said in its recommendations—I am subject to correction—that there should be dispersal of industry away from the heavily concentrated industrial complexes of this country and these industries should be taken to the backward areas of the country I would like to know whether it holds good for public sector enterprises like shipyards

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री (श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी) कमेटी मे रहे है आप ?

श्री बी० वी० नायक कौन सी कमेटी ? यह तो अलग कमटी थी चार वर्ष पहले जो कमेटी अप्वाइट की थी ।

It was a committee appointed by the Ministry of Industrial Development

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI. It has nothing to do with the Narula Committee.

SHRI B V NAIK: I would like to urge on the hon. Minister that whether it is a shipbuilding industry or an industry for consumer or other goods, all are industries and the recommendations are encompassing. They say, do not put all your eggs in one basket.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: It is 100 miles from Calcutta.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: If the hon. member kindly refers to the record of his speech, he has said that all these facilities exist because they exist in the Calcutta industrial complex.

SHRI DHARNIDHAR DAS (Mangaldai): Has he mentioned backward areas particularly?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Yes. At the time when the hon. Chairman's State of Kerala was selected for a shipyard—at Cochin—in 1958, the same exercise of selecting shipyards was carried through for a period of two years. Ultimately Cochin was selected and the Cochin Shipyard went on developing for a period of a full decade from 1962 to 1972. And very recently I think it is picking up. That does not speak well for the way in which our shipyards come up. Since almost it is alleged that Paradip in Orissa and Kandla in Gujarat area sort of a foregone conclusion, whether this exercise of a debate of the matter being under consideration of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport is a mere ritual that is being carried on or *fait accompli* is .taking place, so that the exercise of mine for the port of Karwar, which is one of the world's best ports....

Mr. Chairman: What is your question?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: May I know whether there is any elbow room for fresh consideration and whether the consultants who have been reported to have been hired from abroad have the right to go into the merits of the recommendations already made and go behind the recommendations of the Brig. Narula Committee and come to fresh conclusions or they can only start from where this committee left. Also, in a big enterprise like this, have you thought of foreign capital and whether you are going to enlist the support of foreign multiple corporations?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : (मुरैना) : सभापति जी, श्री समर गुह जी ने जो चर्चा उठाई है, मैं उस का समर्थन करता हूं। माननीय महोदय इस बात से इन्कार नहीं करेंगे कि दुनिया के देशों के जिस प्रकार से पानी के जहाज दौड़ रहे है, उन की तुलना में हमारे यहां काफी कमी है और उन के मुकाबले में आने में अभी हमें काफी समय लगेगा। इस के लिये हमें अपने जहाजरानी उद्योग का निर्माण और विकास करना बहुत जरूरी है।

जिस समिति का उल्लेख अभी नायक साहब ने किया है—मैं जानना चाहता हूं—क्या उस समिति ने कुछ ऐसे भी सुझाव दिये हैं जिन पर अमल किया जाय तो हम इस क्षेत्र में काफी विकास कर सकते है। आज भी हमें दूसरे देशों से जहाज मांग लेने पड़ते है। वह दिन कब आयेगा ? जब हम अपनी आवश्यकता को पूरा करते हुए अन्य देशों को भी अपने जहाज दे सकेंगे।

क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि जहाजों के बारे में हमारी आवश्यकता कितनी है, उस को पूरा करने के लिये कितना खर्च करना पड़ेगा, जितने जहाज हमें चाहियें तथा अन्य देशों से जो सुविधायें हम ने ले रखी है उन को बन्द कर के अपनी सुविधाये कब तक दे सकेंगे।

*SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset I will like to tell the hon. Minister that the two projects viz. the consrtuction of the Haldia Port and the construction of Haldia Shipyard are somewhat inter-

*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

linked. Since it has been finally decided that the Haldia Port will be constructed as a subsidiary of the Calcutta Port., I would like to know what steps are proposed to be taken for desilting and dredging the shallow strip between the Sagar Island and the Calcutta Port so that big ships are enabled to approach this port without difficulty. I would further like to know whether the decision that was taken at the time of sanctioning the Haldia Port Project regarding the maximum tonnage of the ships that will be able to anchor at this port has since been revised. What will be the maximum tonnage of the ships that will be able to come up to this port according to the latest calculations and estimates of the Government? Sir, it has been estimated that in 1978-79 the volume of ships to be handled at the Haldia Port will be almost three times the present traffic I would like to know whether Government kept this aspect in view in the planning and construction of the Haldia Port.

Sir, the first phase of the work of construction of the Haldia Port was originally scheduled to be completed by June 1974 But I am sorry to learn that this time scheduled has been extended by one year after the first visit of the hon. Minister Shri Kamlapathi Tripathi to the site. I will like to know why the time has been extended, I fail to see any justification for this. I will further like to know from the hon. Minister why a final decision has not yet been taken for the construction of the Shipyard at the Haldia Port although this was strongly recommended by the Nural Committee long back. When will the Government take a final decision in this regard and work will commence on the project?

It has been very rightly pointed out by the hon. Member Shri Samar Guha that the more delay is there in taking the final decision, the cost of building this shipyard will go higher and higher. The cost will go up immensely. We are already seeing that as the completion of the Haldia Port is taking more time, the cost of its construction is going up very fast.

Sir, I am speaking from a national perspective and on behalf of my brethern, whether he lives on the Eastern Coast or the Western Coast or the Southern Coast, that there is a great need for more and more ports on our vast and extensive coastland. The demand for more ports are growing. Let more ports and Shipyards be constructed in all the regions.

Sir, I want to know when the work on the Haldia Shipyard will finally start and when wil it end? How much time will it take to be completed and what will be its final capacity?

18.00 hrs.

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री (श्री कमला पति त्रिपाठी) · समय तो खत्म हो गया है लेकिन प्रो० समर गुह ने जो सवाल उठाया है उस के सम्बन्ध में मैं थोड़ा सा कह देना जरूरी समझता हू । जो पाइट्स उन्होने बताये है मैं समझता हूं कि वे सब मुनासिब पाइटस है । नरुला कमेटी कोई कमेटी नहो थी, एक टैक्नो इकोनोमिक ग्रुप था । उस के पहले भी एक वर्किंग ग्रुप बना था, जो हल्दिया गया था वैस्ट बंगाल सरकार के कहने पर । उस के बाद टैक्नो इकोनोमिक ग्रुप बना । उसको बनाने का कारण यह था कि जितनी मैरीटाइम स्टेट्स है करीब करीब सब ने मांग की थी कि हमारे यहां शिपयार्ड बने, केरल ने, गोआ ने, गुजरात ने, आंध्र ने, महाराष्ट्र ने, कर्नाटक ने, तमिलनाडु ने, उड़ीसा आदि सब ने यह मांग की थी । तब यह सोचा गया कि एक टैक्नो इकोनोमिक ग्रुप बन जाए और इन सब स्टेट्स को जा कर विजिट करे । वह बना और उस ने सब स्टेट्स को विजिट किया । वह एक डिपार्टमेंटल सा वर्किंग ग्रुप था जिस ने रिपोर्ट दी । उस ने सीन माडल रखे,

नम्बर 1, 2 और 3। जैसे प्रोफैसर साहब ने अभी कहा इतने इतने डी डब्ल्यू टी के माडल उसने रखे कि कहां कहां ये बनाए जा सकते हैं। इस के विषय में उन्होंने अपनी राय दी। चार जगहें बताई, एक हल्दिया, एक भरादीप, एक गोआ में कुलबिगनी और हजीरा गुजरात में। ये चार नाम उन्होंने दिए तब यह समझा गया कि कंसलटेंट्स बुला लिये जाएं क्योंकि इतना एक्सपरटाइज अपने यहां अभी नहीं है कि हम बड़े डी डब्ल्यू टी के शिप अपने यहां बना सकें। क्या जरूरतें होगी। उसका क्या टैक्नीक होगा, उसके लिए कंसलटेंट्स बुलाए गए। एक यू कें कें एपोलोडोर, एक नार्वे एस आर एक यूगोस्लाविया के उलजनीक। ये तीन आए और इन से बातचीत हुई। बातचीत के बाद एग्रीमैटस करीब करीब हो गए हैं और साइन करने के लिए काजगजात गए हैं। ये चारों साइट्स को विजिट करेंगे। एपोलोडोर के जिम्मे यह काम हुआ कि वह माडल नं0 1 और 2 पर रिपोर्ट दें। एस0 आर0 एस0 और उजानिक एक एक रिपोर्ट नं0 2 पर दें। तीसरे को अभी ड्राप किया है :

18.00 hrs.

So far as the model No. 3 is concerned, it is a very big project-1,20,000 DWT and 3,50,000 DWT. Perhaps it is not possible to take it up in this Plan.

इसलिए चारों रिपोर्टस आने वाली हैं और उन को आने में करीब चार छः महीने लग जायेंगे।

No delay is being made. We ourselves are very particular to go ahead as soon as possible. It is a very big investment; it wil be more than Rs. 60 to 200 crores invested in two shipyards. It will be a very big investment. So, there should be proper and detailed project reports, site, etc., all these should be considered very seriously before we take up the project. We are going to have our reports within five or six months and then Government will take a decision.

So far as Haldia is concerned, Mr. Samar Guha has already said so many things in favour of Haldia. I myself have visited Haldia this time. When I went to Calcutta, I went up to Haldia. The port is going to be completed and then it will be able to receive bigger ships of the size of 1,80,000 DWT. I told those people that it should be completed by the middle of 1975. They say that perhaps by the end of March or April that Port will be completed. In the meantime, the reports will be available from the consultants and then Government will take a decision and go ahead with the job. As I had said in Calcutta and it was all published in the Press that Haldia has a very good case But we cannot make any commitments to-day because the reports are to come five or six months hence and after that, a final decesion is to be taken. But, as far as the points in favour of Haldia are concerned, we have already stated and I know these points are there. So, there will be no unwarranted delay and we are ourselves particular about it and we shall try to go ahead as early as possible. I think perhaps the hon Member will allow the Government to take a final decision after the Consultants' Reports are available.

SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT (Kolaba): Did the foreign consultants visit only this port or other ports also?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. The House now stands adjourned till 11 A M. on Monday, the 29th July, 1974

18.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, July 29, 1974/Sravana 7, 1896 (Saka).

MGIPND—M—1187- L.S.—978